FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

14 JANUARY 1985

Iran-Iraq War

The Iranian Air Force bombed Iraq's Al-Kumayt barracks on 13 January, inflicting "considerable losses and casualities," the Iranian Joint Staff Command announced in a communique cited by IRNA. While the communique said that all Iranian planes returned safely from the raid, 80 kms inside Iraq, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio stated that Iraqi air defenses downed one of two Iranian planes which overflew the Maysan area of Iraq that day. The communique from Baghdad also announced another Iraqi air attack on shipping in the Gulf on 13 January, asserting that Iraqi planes hit two "maritime targets" near Khark Island. This followed Iraq's announcement in an earlier communique cited by INA that its Air Force had carried out "successful raids" on two other "maritime targets" in the same area on 11 January. Shipping sources in Manama confirmed that an Iranian vessel was crippled by an Iraqi missile attack that day, according to Baghdad radio. In a related report, Radio Monte Carlo said that many targets of recent Iraqi raids have been Iranian tankers transporting oil to islands in the southeastern part of the Gulf for transfer to waiting foreign tankers.

In another military development, an Iranian communique cited by IRNA claimed that Iranian forces thwarted an 11 January Iraqi attempt to occupy an island in the Arvand River, Iran's term for the Shatt al-'Arab. Meanwhile, a UN committee arrived in Baghdad at the start of a visit to investigate the conditions of POW's in both countries, Baghdad radio noted.

Lebanon

Israeli Withdrawal Plan — The defense establishment's proposals for a withdrawal in stages enjoy majority support in the Israeli Cabinet, despite opposition from Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and some other Likud ministers, Jerusalem radio disclosed in a report on the continuing Cabinet debate on Lebanon. If the Cabinet approves the plan, the IDF will begin its withdrawal "within the next 2 weeks," redeploying on a new line between the Al-Zahrani and Al-Litani Rivers, according to *THE JERUSALEM POST*. The IDF will subsequently withdraw from the Al-Biqa' valley, including Jabal al-Baruk, and should complete its withdrawal by Autumn 1985, the paper added. Israeli military experts cited by Jerusalem radio likewise predicted that the initial withdrawal will be to a "Katyusha" line 20-30 km north of Israel's border with Lebanon. As for the possibility that Lebanon might alter its policy toward a negotiated withdrawal, the radio said the Lebanese must present any new proposals by 17 January when the next "and possibly final" round of talks takes place at Al-Naqurah.

Security Situation — The final phase of the coastal road security plan was completed on 12 January with the deployment of 1,700 troops from the Lebanese Army's 12th Brigade along the coastal road from Khaldah to Al-Rumaylah, Beirut radio announced. An Israeli roadblock prevented the Army from moving further south, the radio said. In West Beirut, two bomb explosions on 12 January killed 3 people and injured 35 others, Beirut radio reported. The "Free Youths of Beirut" claimed responsibility for the bombings, describing them as a warning to the PSP to evacuate the city, according to the Voice of Lebanon. The Syrian daily *AL-BA'TH* blamed "'Arafat's clique and Israel" for the new spate of bombings, Damascus radio reported.

In Tripoli, Islamic Unification Movement leader Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban warned the United States that operations will be carried out against it in retaliation for the fate of the people of southern Lebanon and Palestine, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon reported.

PLO

External Relations — PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas expressed satisfaction with his recent talks with Soviet officials in Moscow and praised Soviet efforts to normalize Palestinian-Syrian relations, KUNA reported on 11 January.

Sudan Incident — Reporting on the recent death of the PLO's military commander in Sudan, a Kuwaiti paper cited by KUNA asserted that the Palestinian officer was killed in a clash with Israelis involved in the operation to transport Falasha Jews from Sudan to Israel.

Egypt

The first Egyptian-Israeli meeting to discuss Tabah will be held 20 January, MENA announced citing a Foreign Ministry source. Subsequently the agency noted President Husni Mubarak's statement that while Egypt is ready for negotiations on Tabah there will be no concessions or compromises.

Libya

A diplomat at the People's Bureau in Rome was assassinated by "criminal terrorists" on 13 January, Tripoli radio announced. While the "Al-Burkan" organization claimed responsibility for the assassination, JANA maintained that they were backed by the PLO and the United States.

Sudan

Government and rebel sources reported further fighting in the south in recent days, with both sides claiming successes. A Sudanese military spokesman cited by Omdurman radio reported that government forces attacked another rebel camp in Equatoria, killing its commander, while reports by the clandestine Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) spoke of over 150 government troops killed by the SPLA in recent action, during which the SPLA captured the town of Yirol.

Western Sahara

An SDAR Information Ministry statement cited by APS claimed that Saharan troops killed 311 Moroccan soldiers in a "fierce attack" on the Moroccan defensive wall in the Mahbes region on 12 January. The Saharans captured three Moroccan positions, destroyed 17 tanks, and shot down a Mirage aircraft, the statement asserted.

Husayn Gulf Tour

As part of his tour of Gulf states Jordan's King Husayn discussed Arab developments with the amirs of Kuwait and Bahrain on 13 January, according to KUNA and Manama radio.

Gulf Air Crash 'Hoax'

Kuwaiti aerial navigation sources viewed a 12 January SOS message concerning an air crash in the Gulf as a "hoax," KUNA reported. A full investigation and an air search over the sea made it clear that no plane had passed over the crash area mentioned in the SOS, whose sender said his plane was "sinking" close to the Iranian coast, the sources disclosed. Investigations by the Iranian authorities into the incident have thus far revealed no evidence of a plane crash, according to IRNA.

Afghanistan

Pakistan issued a strong protest, reported by Karachi radio, against an air violation by seven Afghan planes over the Chitral area on 11 January. Afghanistan in turn denied Pakistani charges on airspace violations on 6 January in the same region, according to BAKHTAR.

A BAKHTAR communique accused Pakistan and the United States of "sabotage" of the DRA economy by forging DRA and U.S. currencies.

Pakistan

A general election for the National Assembly will be held on 25 February followed shortly afterward by elections for provincial assemblies which will nominate Senate members, President Ziaul Haq disclosed in a 12 January address to the nation broadcast by Karachi radio. The election will be held on a "nonparty" basis, he said, and it is designed to establish an Islamic system in which the voters will elect only those who believe in national integrity, unity, and national security, and not in divisive politics and communalism. The president announced regulations disqualifying many political leaders of the 1971-77 period from participating, as well as a total ban on political processions and open-air mass meetings throughout the election period. Many opposition leaders denounced the elections planned by the authorities, who arrested 50 opposition leaders in the 4 days prior to the president's announcement, according to Delhi radio.

FBIS

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Reportage on Palestinian Leaders in Tunisia

'Arafat Addresses Palestinian Forces

JN111730 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has affirmed that the Syrian regime is deeply involved in a U.S.- Zionist conspiracy aimed at destroying the Palestinian revolution and reinforcing sectarian designs to partition Lebanon as a prelude to spreading and broadening a spirit of fragmentation in the Arab homeland.

In a speech before a unit of the Palestinian revolution forces in the Wadi Zarqa camp near Tunis the day before yesterday, Abu 'Ammar denounced the Syrian regime's attempts to destroy the Palestinian revolution's bases and institutions.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said that the head of the Syrian regime participated with Zionist forces in besieging and shelling the Palestinian revolution forces.

He said that, in accordance with the planned conspiracy, the Syrian regime left the Palestinian and nationalist Lebanese forces to confront alone Zionist forces during the 1982 invasion of Lebanon. He said that history will record this disgraceful stand by the Syrian regime. It will also record the siege and shelling of the Palestinian forces' positions in Tripoli and Al-Biqa' by this regime's forces throughout the fall of 1983.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said that the conspiracy against the Palestinian revolution continued with obvious encouragement by the Syrian regime for the dissident movement within the Palestinian revolution and in many fields to obstruct the convocation of the PNC. Abu 'Ammar added that, despite all the conspiracies, the PNC, with the Palestinian people's support, managed to convene in Amman and achieve brilliant results that astonished the enemy. He affirmed that the Palestinian revolution is stronger than ever despite all the dilemmas and that it will carefully maintain its independent decisionmaking.

'Arafat Meets PLO Leaders

JN121822 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] held a meeting at the Palestinian leadership's headquarters in Tunis which was attended by many Palestinian leaders and cadres working in PLO establishments and Palestinian popular organizations.

The brother leader reviewed the nature of the current situation in the Palestinian and Arab arenas and the tasks undertaken by the PLO on all levels in the current phase. He stressed the need to increase the efficacy of armed struggle in the main arena of struggle, the occupied homeland, since this is the only language understood by the Zionist enemy.

The brother leader also reviewed the recent Syrian move to gather together agent tools in what is termed the National Front.

Khalaf Meets With Essebsi

JN121821 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee, met in Tunis yesterday with Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi. Discussion during the meeting dealt with the latest developments in the Palestinian and Arab arenas.

'Arafat, Qaddumi Meet Mzali

LD131141 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Tunis: Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, met last night with Mohamed Mzali, Tunisian prime minister and minister of the interior. The PALESTINIAN NEWS AGENCY, WAFA, has reported that a comprehensive review of the political situation in the Arab and Palestinian arenas, in addition to relations between the PLO and Tunisia, took place during the meeting.

The meeting was attended by Faruq Qaddumi, chief of the PLO Political Department; Salah Khalaf, member of the Fatah Central Committee, and on the Tunisian side by Beji Caid es-Sebsi.

Salah Khalaf Interviewed on Palestinian Issues

On Government in Exile

PM111629 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 11 Jan 85 p 1

[Report on interview with Salah Khalaf, Fatah Central Committee member, by 'Abd al-Bari 'Atwan: "Abu Iyad: Government in Exile Would Be Possible If It Serves the Cause, But Political Climate Not Conducive to Settlement"]

[Text] London — Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), Fatah's number two, has warned against current moves to establish an alternative PLO.

In an exclusive statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, Abu Iyad revealed that information available to the PLO indicates that contacts are currently taking place to establish a broad national salvation front, including a number of Palestinian factions under the leadership of Khalid al-Fahum or PFLP Secretary General George Habash.

Abu Iyad said that the front in question might call after some time for a popular conference to be convened as a prelude to the formation of another national council similar to the PNC.

He said that he will ask Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid during his visit to Algeria, which begins today, to intervene and exert further mediation efforts with the brothers in Syria in order to resume a national dialogue and to make further conciliation efforts in order to rectify relations between the PLO and Syria.

Abu Iyad justified the PLO's low-key reaction to the emigration of Ethiopian Jews to the Zionist entity by saying that this was

due to a lack of definite information regarding the party fully responsible for this emigration operation. He said: We fully condemn this operation, and if it is proved that the Sudanese Government is involved in it, then it will have committed the most serious Arab action against the PLO and the Palestinian cause.

He reiterated his request that the Arab League set up an Arab fact-finding commission in order to investigate the whole case and make its findings public.

Referring to the Moroccan monarch's suggestion that the PLO set up a government in exile, he said that it is the PLO that represents the Palestinian people, and if it sees that forming a government in exile will serve the Palestinian people's interest and struggle to restore their land, then it will not hesitate to form such a government.

Speaking about the prospects of a political settlement in 1985, he said that the balances of Arab power at present do not permit a settlement. There is at present in the area an illusion called peace, he said, but there must be a strong Arab political position if we are to obtain any political solutions.

Abu Iyad said the PLO supports the call for an Arab summit and believes that holding a summit at this stage is highly essential. But, he added, this does not mean that a summit should be held at any cost. Minisummits — trilateral or more — should precede and pave the way to a major Arab summit, he added.

He denied that Yasir 'Arafat will go to Cairo at the end of this month. He said that 'Arafat received an invitation to attend an international conference on solidarity with the Palestinian people to be held in Cairo at the end of January, but it has been decided to send another committee member to represent the PLO at the conference.

On Ties With Egypt

NC112230 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2135 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 11 Jan (MENA) — Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf [Abu Iyad] has stressed the need for Egypt's return as the leader of the Arab nation. He said that alone, Egypt is a head without a body, and alone, the Arab nation is a body without a head.

In an exclusive interview with *AL-JUMHURIYAH* to be published tomorrow, he added that the Arabs feel that the absence of Egypt is the absence of the head from the body. It is the absence of the Arab head from the Arab march of struggle, and the PLO must endeavor to restore it.

The Palestinian leader said that protection of the Palestinian revolution will not be complete except with Egypt and the Egyptian people. He pointed to Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Cairo and said that he is against the timing of the visit and not against the visit itself. Salah Khalaf praised Egypt's positive stand on the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, the independent Palestinian state, and the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Regarding the dialogue with Jordan, Abu Iyad said: We agree with Jordan on the subject of territories in return for peace on the basis of Resolution No 242. We say: Territories in return for peace is not enough, but peace in return for the Palestinian people's national rights, that is, territories, [words indistinct], and independence. [paragraph as received]

Abu Iyad denied that there are political axes between Egypt, Jordan, and the PLO. He said that the greatest crime that the Palestinian revolution commits is to put its cause in any axis. He stressed the importance of everyone standing with and supporting the Palestinian cause.

Abu Iyad noted in the interview that we cannot continue with our political demands if we do not support them with the armed struggle. He said that the Palestinian revolution will not be able to achieve its objectives if it abandons the military alternative.

The Palestinian leader also pointed to the assassination plots against the Fatah and PLO Executive Committee leaderships and said: They have formed a higher committee in Damascus for assassinations, which is personally supervised by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, and it includes some Palestinians as well.

He said that the PLO will not reply to the assassination war with the same method. He urged the Arabs to oppose this plot. He stressed the independence of Palestinian decisions and its rejection of the Syrian regime's attempts to impose its custodianship on the Palestinian revolution.

On Al-Qawasimi Assassination

JN121102 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 12 Jan 85 pp 12, 13

[Interview with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, identified by his nom de guerre Abu Iyad, by Shakir al-Jawhari, granted to both *SAWT AL-SHA'B* and Kuwait's *AL-MAJALIS* in Kuwait — date not specified]

[Excerpts] At the time of his midday nap after lunch, we had this interview with him in his house in Kuwait which he visits once a year. Before asking questions, I told him: With this dialogue, we hope to read the horizons of the future by turning over the pages of both the past and the present, even if we are sometimes forced to deal with some wounds. However, what happened was that, encouraged by Abu Iyad's frankness, we scraped the scab off most wounds.

[Al-Jawhari] Let us begin with the assassination of Fahd al-Qawasimi. How were the security precautions penetrated and how was the new PLO member reached?

[Khalaf] You may recall that a few days before Al-Qawasimi was martyred, I made a speech to the Palestinian Women's Union in Kuwait in which I warned that there was a plan to assassinate Palestinian leaders. I indicated that some Arab regimes were trying to carry out this scheme. In fact, martyr Fahd was one of those we contacted and advised to have guards. However, he insisted that guards were not needed.

[Al-Jawhari] Do you have any information or speculation about the side involved in the assassination?

[Khalaf] I have just told you that I spoke about an assassination plan before Al-Qawasimi was assassinated. We have details about the three camps on the outskirts of Damascus where the National Alliance groups are being trained. There is also a fourth camp for the Abu Nidal group. There is coordination through a higher assassination committee composed of Syrian intelligence officers, as well as Qadri [Samih Abu Kuwayk] from the dissident leaders, Ahmad Jibril's group under the supervision of Jibril himself, 'Abd al-Fattah Ghanim, and Hasan Abu Shunnar from the dissidents. This committee began to work quickly before and after the recent PNC session. The Syrian and Libyan Embassies provide these groups with weapons anywhere they go by exploiting diplomatic immunity and diplomatic pouches.

Available information indicates that the scheme is being implemented in three stages. The first stage deals with the assassination of the directors of the PLO offices or anyone in them; the second with the assassination of independent figures, whether those who attended the PNC in Amman or those who assumed posts in the PLO, specifically in the Executive Committee or the Central Council; and the third with the assassination of Fatah leaders. This stage is more difficult for them to carry out. Therefore, they adopted a special method other than direct assassination, because they know that these leaders are guarded and that the element in charge of assassinating a Fatah leader will think a thousand times before he commits such a deed — as has been confirmed by their experience and the experience of others. Therefore, the method they reached to assassinate the Fatah leaders was through booby-trapped cars or in the air. Let history record that I said they will assassinate in the air. If they come to know that one of us has taken a plane, they will try to get it down, regardless of civilians.

These are the methods they have approved and to which they will resort. One feels sad and disgusted while saying this, but, regrettably, this is reality. We will confront such methods politically and through all other means, because we cannot allow this to continue.

[Al-Jawhari] Has Al-Qawasimi's assassination expedited rapprochement with Jordan?

[Khalaf] It has nothing to do with it.

[Al-Jawhari] Let me clarify my question. I understand that there are two views inside the Fatah Central Committee. One of them calls for expediting rapprochement with Jordan. Will Al-Qawasimi's assassination give priority to this standpoint?

[Khalaf] Before the recent PNC session, we agreed to one policy regarding Jordan, not two policies. We agreed that regarding political action, the outcome of which should be an independent Palestinian state and the attainment of our people's right to self-determination and repatriation, we will cooperate without reservation with Jordan and other Arab countries. As for anything below this, specifically anything related to authorization or whatever else, it is decisively settled by us. This means that we do not intend to discuss the subject of authorization again.

Hence, I believe that the subject of Fahd al-Qawasimi's assassination or that of the PNC convening in Amman have absolutely nothing to do with coordination with Jordan. This is what we agreed on. Movement with Jordan or any other Arab country is in line with the PLO's political program and this is a general policy that applies to all.

[Al-Jawhari] What then is the meaning of Hani al-Hasan's statement that the committee in charge of discussing the Jordanian king's proposal concerning a joint Jordanian-Palestinian move based on UN Security Council Resolution No 242 will announce its decision in 1 week — this interview was conducted 1 week ago — and this statement was made directly after Fahd al-Qawasimi's assassination?

[Khalaf] I do not really know the purpose of this statement. I have read about it, but I can no longer trust the news agency reports, which often distort and misconstrue words. However, our decision is to coordinate with Jordan within the framework of the PLO's political program.

[Al-Jawhari] Is there a relationship between the timing of Al-Qawasimi's assassination and Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] visit to Aden, a visit on which you accompanied him?

[Khalaf] I do not think there is a relationship. However, there is no doubt that some were not happy with our visit to Aden because they wanted to squeeze the PLO within a certain axis. They used to spread rumors about this axis and say that we worked within an Egyptian-Jordanian axis. Sometimes they added Iraq to it. However, going to Aden indicated the falsehood of such talk. It also indicated that the PLO is still as it was, building its relations with the Arabs as much as the Arabs adopt attitudes toward it, regardless of the identity of this or that regime.

[Al-Jawhari] Can the visit to Aden be a key to a visit to Moscow?

[Khalaf] I do not think there is a link. What I can say is that Palestinian-Soviet relations are very strong. For example, the Soviet ambassador in Aden or Amman and his embassy staff were with us in the Palestinian revolution celebrations. When the Soviet ambassador in Aden learned of the martyrdom of Fahd al-Qawasimi, he came to the PLO office despite his illness that day in order to offer condolences.

In Amman, all the Soviet Embassy staff offered condolences to us. Contacts between us are continuing. Two days after this interview, Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] will be in Moscow at the head of a PLO delegation. Another Fatah delegation will also pay an official visit to Moscow in March. All of these visits emphasize that Palestinian-Soviet relations are excellent. As for Abu 'Ammar's visit to Moscow, it is for the Soviets to decide when it should take place.

[Al-Jawhari] What was reached in Aden regarding the Palestinian dialogue?

[Khalaf] We told our Yemeni brothers that we are open to dialogue and that there are no problems between us and the Democratic Alliance factions. There might be a problem with the PFLP, because it is calling for cancelling the 17th PNC session.

I consider this demand luxurious and not real. Hence, there was insistence on dialogue with the PFLP. We said that leaving four seats vacant in the Executive Committee does not mean that we are telling the others that we have decided everything and you must come. No, our action expresses a desire not to split the Palestinian arena.

[Al-Jawhari] In what way has Al-Qawasimi's assassination influenced the national Palestinian dialogue?

[Khalaf] I think it has had a positive influence.

[Al-Jawhari] Have you come to this conclusion in light of the PFLP and the Democratic Front's statements which condemned the assassination?

[Khalaf] No, before that. I affirm to you that at this stage every Palestinian who is loyal to his homeland, people, history, and revolution knows that Fahd al-Qawasimi's blood should push us further toward dialogue, and that these fascist methods are useless and even deepen differences. We say that this revolution has primarily taught us to get rid of tribal customs and those of revenge. However, sometimes the last cure could be cauterization.

[Al-Jawhrai] It was clear that when you called for not putting Khalid al-Fahum on trial at the PNC session in Amman, you did not want to sever ties with Damascus forever. Do you think that Al-Qawasimi's assassination has severed these ties?

[Khalaf] I think that it was Damascus which cut ties with us. It does not want any relationship with the present PLO leadership because it wants a special type of leadership, a mercenary leadership under its orders. As long as this is the Damascus attitude, our stand toward it will be complete alienation. When Damascus wishes to change, we will be ready to change, because we do not believe in the policy of fighting any Arab regime. However, if any Arab regime wants to impose its decision on us, we will boycott it until its black ideas are terminated.

[Al-Jawhari] In your speech at the PNC session in Amman, you said that the difference with Syria is a political difference and that the main point of this difference is that Syria is against establishing an independent Palestinian state. What does Syria want? What is the Syrian political alternative for an independent Palestinian state? How does Syria view this solution?

[Khalaf] Frankly speaking — and I say this for the first time — by striking at the PLO and by rejecting the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, Syria serves U.S. and Israeli policy in the region, whether directly or indirectly and whether it wishes to or not. Therefore, I think that the chain of assassinations is just beginning. I consider assassination a political action and part of a scheme aimed at dealing a blow to the PLO and liquidating it. But I ask: When did assassination and murder affect the national, honorable people? The coward becomes brave in such cases.

[Al-Jawhari] What about the Syrian alternative to the Palestinian state?

[Khalaf] It subjugates the Palestinian state to the logic of Arab unity. It says it does not want small entities, and I challenge any Palestinian leader to say that he did not hear these words from Hafiz al-Asad.

[Al-Jawhari] Does he want a confederation of Greater Syria?

[Khalaf] He wants it to be a confederation composed of Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, and later Iraq, because Iraq is not far from his ambitions. He considers all this territory to be the land of Greater Syria. Therefore, any Palestinian entity will, in his opinion, contest his leadership. He also believes that such a Palestinian state will be democratic, despite his wishes. A democratic Palestinian state bordering Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Syria will certainly not please the Syrian regime.

[Al-Jawhari] Since you mentioned the United States in your previous answer, what was your understanding of the reasons why the United States asked Israel to agree to Fahd al-Qawasimi's burial in Hebron?

[Khalaf] The United States thinks that this request could improve its ugly picture among the Palestinian people, although in substantial matters it is against the Palestinian people. I would like to ask about the meaning of returning a body to the West Bank.

[Al-Jawhari] More specifically, the question is: What is the relationship between this request and the written dialogue that the late Al-Qawasimi held with Richard Murphy in Amman before the last PNC session, as some newspapers published?

[Khalaf] This is Khalid al-Fahum's information, and not the information of the papers which published it. Khalid al-Fahum said this in an interview with Damascus radio 2 days before Al-Qawasimi was assassinated, and the radio rebroadcast it after his assassination. Before he became a PLO member, Fahd al-Qawasimi openly went with Muhammad Milhim to the United States more than once. They publically met with U.S. officials. I would like to ask: Who of us in the PLO rejects dialogue with the United States? The ignorant is the one who rejects such a dialogue. However, there is a difference between holding dialogue with the United States and being its agent or the servant of its schemes in the region. Fahd al-Qawasimi had a dialogue with the United States. Does this mean that he became American?

[Al-Jawhari] How true is it to say that you used to protect the dissidents?

[Khalaf] True, but before they became dissidents. I still protect anyone who speaks his mind frankly. I am against dismissing him because of his opinion. Those people were clean before they split up. Anybody who says they were not clean is mistaken. It is true that they exploited calls for reform and deviated after carrying out the so-called uprising. I protected Abu Nidal at first, but I did not protect him so that he could go and fight. I protected him so that he would not go and fight. I protected them so that they would not become dissidents. Unfortunately, others gave them the chance to become dissidents and killers. I still say that we should absorb those who deviated, because they are not all criminals, killers, or sinners.

On Ties With Jordan

GF121025 Doha QNA in Arabic 0835 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Al-Shariqah, 12 Jan (QNA) — Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, has reiterated that King Husayn of Jordan has not asked the PLO to authorize him to speak on behalf of the Palestinian people, nor has the PLO asked him to do so. He noted that coordination with Jordan is part of the PLO political program to achieve the right to self-determination and to return and set up the Palestinian state.

In a statement published in today's issue of *AL-KHALIJ*, Abu Iyad said. We agreed in the Fatah Central Committee, before the convocation of the PNC session in Amman, on a unified policy vis-a-vis Jordan and not on two policies. This policy is based on unconditional political cooperation with Jordan to set up a Palestinian state. He pointed out that any bilateral efforts with Jordan or any other Arab country are in line with the PLO political program.

Abu Iyad said no one inside the PLO rejects the idea of a dialogue with the United States. It is the ignorant who reject dialogue with the United States. However, there is a difference between entering into a dialogue with the United States and becoming an agent for the United States, he said. He indicated that martyr Fahd al-Qawasimi had had a dialogue with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Washington. This does not mean Al-Qawasimi became an American, he said.

Salah Khalaf was very pessimistic over the idea of a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian issue in 1985. We would be working under an illusion if we were to think that there were political solutions to set up an independent Palestinian state, Abu Iyad said. There are many Arab parties — some of whom are raising revolutionary slogans — which reject such a state. This policy goes side by side with the massive Zionist-imperialist assault which is being met by total Arab and Palestinian weakness. Besides, the current balance of power in the region does not favor the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. For this reason we must wage more struggles and wars in order to bring this state about, he added.

Fatah's Hani al-Hasan on UNRWA Budget Deficit

JN121835 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Brother Hani al-Hasan, adviser to brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], has announced that the PLO formed a committee a few weeks ago to investigate UNRWA's measures to reduce its services. In a statement to REUTER in Amman yesterday, Al-Hasan said that UNRWA's measures will reduce educational, medical, and living standard services. These measures, he added, will have serious consequences, since their aim is to gradually remove the Palestinian refugee question from the UN agenda. For this reason, he said, the PLO formed this special committee to follow up on this serious subject.

Hani al-Hasan said the PLO has begun talks with several Arab states in order to ensure the essential part of the current deficit in UNRWA's budget and to take official action through the representatives of the Arab League and the PLO in the United Nations in New York.

AL-WATAN Interviews DFLP's Nayif Hawatimah

GF121530 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 11 Jan 85 PP 1, 15

[Excerpt] Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, has criticized the inclinations of some Palestinian leadership circles toward settlement plans, saying that no Palestinian leader can divert the revolution and the PLO from their course.

In a telephone conversation with *AL-WATAN* from Damascus, Hawatimah said that no force and no Palestinian leading personality can stop the Palestinian people's struggle. In a clear indication to Yasir 'Arafat, he said that no PLO Executive Committee chairman can steer things in the direction of the liquidatory options as proposed in the plan of King Husayn and Mubarak, which is attempting to push matters toward Reagan's plan but in an Arab form or character.

Resistance Attacks ASL Position in Sidon

JN111737 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men launched a machine gun and rocket attack on a military position belonging to the so-called army of southern Lebanon [ASL] militias at the southern entrance of Sidon in occupied southern Lebanon this morning. Several members of the agent positions were either killed or wounded.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation, but, as usual, did not mention his losses. He said his forces and agent militia elements immediately carried out an extensive search and arrested a large number of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens on the pretext of collaborating with the resistance men, who withdrew safely to base.

BAHRAIN

Jordan's King Husayn Arrives 13 January

GF131425 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1400 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Manama, 13 Jan (WAKH) — King Husayn of Jordan arrived in Manama today for a 1-day visit. The Jordanian king was received by His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain; His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the prime minister; and His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force.

The Jordanian king is expected to discuss with the amir of Bahrain current bilateral, Arab, and international relations and matters of mutual interest.

The Jordanian king's visit to Bahrain is within the second stage of a tour of the region's countries. During the first stage, he visited Saudi Arabia, and during the first part of the second tour, he visited Kuwait. He is expected to visit Qatar and Oman on 14 January.

Talks Begin in Manama

GF131856 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] A session of official talks began in Al-Qudaybiyah Palace at 1900 today between the Bahraini side, led by his highness the amir, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khaifah, and the Jordanian side, led by His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal.

Attending the talks on the Bahraini side were His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister; His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of Bahrain Defense Force; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, foreign minister; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah, interior minister; 'Ali ibn Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, assistant interior minister for immigration and passports; and Muhammad al-Mutawwa', director of the prime minister's office.

On the Jordanian side, the talks were attended by Staff General Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces; and Muhammad al-Hindawi, Jordanian ambassador to Bahrain.

WAKH has learned that during the meeting, the two sides reviewed bilateral relations and developments in the Arab situation, particularly regarding matters on the Palestinian arena. They also exchanged views on developments of the Iraq-Iran war and overall issues concerning our Arab homeland. The meeting affirmed the deep fraternal bonds linking Bahrain with Jordan and the continued exchanges between his highness the amir, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, and his brother His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan.

WAKH has also learned that the two sides discussed the convocation of the next Arab summit and efforts to restore Arab solidarity for this conference. They also discussed the coordination that has been achieved between Jordan and the Palestinians during the recent PNC meeting in Amman.

Husayn Leaves for Qatar

GF140930 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0910 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Manama, 14 Jan (WAKH) — King Husayn of Jordan has left Manama for Doha on the second leg of his current Gulf tour after paying a 1-day visit to Bahrain.

Upon departure King Husayn was seen off by His Highness the Amir, his highness the prime minister, his highness the heir apparent and the commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force, in addition to senior Bahraini officials.

It is worth noting that the visit of the Jordanian monarch to the region is regarded as complementary to the visit he had undertaken to Saudi Arabia.

Further Reportage on Activities of UK's Luce

Meets With Mideast Envoys

GF111100 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0805 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 11 Jan (WAKH) — At the British Embassy in Manama today Richard Luce, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, presided over a meeting of the ambassadors of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the UAE, Oman, Kuwait, the head of the British diplomatic mission to Iran, and the British ambassadors to Iraq, Egypt, and the YAR.

During the meeting they discussed current developments in the Gulf, particularly those dealing with the Iraq-Iran war, Arab regional issues, and the United Kingdom's relations with these countries.

Received by Amir

GF121030 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0935 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Manama, 12 Jan (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, received in Manama today Richard Luce, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs.

The meeting was attended by His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the prime minister; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, the foreign affairs minister; and Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah, the interior minister. Luce arrived in Manama on 10 January on a visit to Bahrain in the framework of a tour of a number of countries in the region.

After the meeting, the British minister said he had reviewed with his highness the amir developments in the Iraq-Iran war and means to stop it as well as matters pertaining to the Middle East question and other international issues. He described his coun-

try's relations with Bahrain as relations of friendship, adding that these are good, strong, and important relations based on tradition.

Meets With Industry Minister
GF121037 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0945 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Manama, 12 Jan (WAKH) — Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi, Bahraini minister of development and industry and acting minister of state for Cabinet affairs, met here today with Richard Luce, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed industrial affairs in the GCC countries in various sectors and the GCC countries' relations with Britain and the European countries.

An informed source said the ministers also discussed oil affairs, particularly the world oil market and the factors affecting it. The source said they discussed matters pertaining to development projects in Bahrain, especially in the industrial and economic fields.

Departs for Oman
GF130632 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0540 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 13 Jan (WAKH) — Richard Luce, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, left Manama for Muscat today following a visit that [passage indistinct] with senior officials. The talks also dealt with current developments in the Gulf region, including the Iraq-Iran war, the Middle East issue, international issues and issues of mutual concern.

KUWAIT

New Air Defense Regiments in USSR for Missle Training
LD140924 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0722 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Jan (KUNA) — The commander of air defense in the Kuwaiti Army, Staff Pilot Brigadier 'Abd al-Aziz al-Ghannam, stated in a press interview published here today, that the Kuwaiti Air Defense Corp has formed several regiments to use various kinds of missiles and they have been sent abroad for training on the use of these missiles.

In an interview with [name indistinct] magazine published by the Defense Ministry, Staff Pilot al-Ghannam said that a SAM-8 missiles regiment has been formed, the cadre of which has been sent to the Soviet Union for training. Also a special cadre has been sent to Egypt to train on the shoulder-carried type missiles SAM-7. As for the cadre assigned to the shoulder-carried missiles STRELLA-30 [as received], the Kuwaiti military official said that their training will be carried out inside Kuwait. Brigadier al-Ghannam stressed that these weapons have strengthened Kuwaiti air defense.

Kuwait had announced last May the signing of a military agreement with the Soviet Union following a visit by the Kuwaiti defense minister, Shaykh Salim al-Sabah, to Moscow within a tour which included a number of countries aimed at up grading the Kuwaiti Army and the diversification of its armament sources.

Jordan's King Husayn Arrives for 'Short Visit'
LD131147 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1108 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 13 jan (KUNA) — Jordanian King Husayn arrived here today on a visit to Kuwait, which was described as a short visit. The Jordanian monarch is to have talks with Kuwait's amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, who received him on his arrival.

Meets Amir, Departs
LD131415 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1344 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 13 Jan (KUNA) — Jordanian King Husayn today left here after a brief visit to Kuwait during which he had talks with Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah. It has been announced that the talks "basically concentrated on the current Arab developments and bilateral relations."

Reportage on Visit of GDR Construction Minister

Arrives 11 Jan
LD112141 Kuwait KUNA in English 1653 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 11 (KUNA) — East German Minister of Construction Industry Wolfgang Junker arrived here Friday to head his country's team to the joint Kuwait-German Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation.

The minister was received on arrival by Kuwait's Minister of Commerce and Industry Jasim Khalid al-Marzuq. Junker is expected to sign two agreements for bolstering commercial and technical relations.

Junker told KUNA on arrival that his country attaches great importance to the outcome of the committee's fifth session scheduled to start here Saturday and added "we aspire for developing our bilateral trade and economic relations". He explained that the permanent committee will sign a number of agreements in a number of spheres topped by medical services, aviation, posts, telegraphs and telephones.

Junker asserted that a greater opportunity is now available to develop this relationship on long-term basis. It is important to benefit from this opportunity to expand this cooperation in future, he added and pointed that he will seize the opportunity while in Kuwait to meet with domestic economic circles and to discuss certain construction projects with private companies.

Meanwhile, official sources at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry told KUNA that the German guest will be received by H.H. the Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah on Monday. He will also meet with high ranking officials.

Junker will sign two agreements with Communications Minister 'Isa Muhammad al-Masidi, they said, adding that the first will be signed Saturday on posts, telegraphs and telephone while the other to be signed on Monday deals with air traffic between the two capitals.

The permanent joint committee will sit Saturday with Al-Marzuk heading the Kuwaiti delegation and Junker the German team. The guest along with Al-Marzuk will inaugurate Saturday an East German exhibition of construction material.

Junker is scheduled to meet also tomorrow with the president of the Kuwait chamber of commerce and industry 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Saqir and on Sunday with the director general of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development Faysal al-Khalid and chairman and director general of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development Muhammad al-Imadi and director of the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Development Dr Adnan Shihab al-Din.

The sources said that the East German minister will meet on Monday with State Minister for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn and Minister of Social Affairs, Labor and Housing Hamad 'Isa al-Ruyjayb.

Junker's stay here is scheduled to end on Tuesday.

Joint Meetings Held

LD121229 Kuwait KUNA in English 1007 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 12 (KUNA) — A Kuwaiti-East German permanent economic and technical committee held its fifth meeting here Saturday for a discussion on means of expanding economic and trade relations between the two states. The Kuwaiti team was led by Minister of Commerce and Industry Jasim Khalid al-Marzuq, while the German delegation was headed by minister of construction industry Wolfgang Junker.

Junker arrived here late Friday at the head of a high-level economic delegation on a five-day official visit to Kuwait, during which he is expected to sign three joint agreements in educational, post, telegram and telephone (PTT) and air transport fields.

Official Commerce Ministry sources told KUNA that the two parties debated potentials for developing bilateral trade and economic relations in addition to the establishment of joint ventures in the field of construction and bolstering technical cooperation in the health and educational spheres. Both sides exchanged views on means of expanding trade exchange in the interest of their countries in addition to increasing exports, they added.

The Kuwaiti-East German balance of trade has witnessed an acute imbalance in favor of Germany in 1982, after it was in favor of Kuwait in 1980, according to official statistics. Kuwaiti exports to the German Democratic Republic between 1980-82 declined by 98.2 percent while Kuwaiti imports from the GDR soared in the same period by 28.4 percent, the statistics indicated.

Junker had told KUNA on arrival that his country attaches great importance to the outcome of the permanent joint committee and aspires for developing bilateral commercial and economic relations. "It is important to benefit from available potentials to expand bilateral cooperation in future and in a more comprehensive manner", he added. The guest is scheduled to meet with a number of Kuwaiti officials topped by H.H. the crown prince and premier Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah on Monday.

Prime Minister Receives Mauritanian Justice Minister

LD131111 Kuwait KUNA in English 1007 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 13 (KUNA) — H.H. the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah received in audience here Sunday the Mauritanian Justice Minister Mahfoud Ould Lemrabott, on the occasion of his visit to the country. The meeting was attended by Kuwaiti Justice, Legal and Administrative Affairs Minister Shaykh Salman al Duaij [name as received] and the charge d'affaires of the Mauritanian embassy in Kuwaiti.

Court To Try Iranians, Kuwaiti for Sabotage

GF131305 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 12 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] A Kuwaiti and five Iranians are to appear before Kuwait's State Security Court later this month on charges involving subversive activities and attempted arson at the country's information complex.

The 22-year-old Kuwaiti, Mahdi Muhammad 'Abbas Ghulum of al-Sulaybiya is accused of joining a group and distributing literature on its activities which aimed to destroy Kuwait's political and social infrastructure. He is also charged with undergoing weapons training and taking part in an arson attempt at the information complex.

The five Iranians to appear before the court on January 26 include Hoseyn Qader Sadeqi, the owner of the Tehran Sanitaryware shop; 'Abdolhasan Ahmad Salami, a pick-up driver; Hasan Mohammed 'Abbdi and 'Abdolhasan Mohammed 'Abbdi, both tailors; and Gholam 'Abbas 'Ali Akbar, a baker. They are accused of joining the group which aimed to destroy Kuwait's system as well as attempted arson at a public utility. The first two Iranian defendants, Sadeqi and Salami are also charged with the possession of explosive materials and instruments.

The State Security Court which is to hear the case will be presided over by Judge Ghazi al-Sammar and will include Judge Isma'il Za'zu' and Judge Faysal al-Marshid.

OMAN

UK's Luce Arrives in Muscat 13 Jan

GF130910 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0805 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Muscat, 13 Jan (WAKH) — Richard Luce, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, arrived in Muscat today on a 4-day visit to the Sultanate of Oman.

In an arrival statement carried by Oman radio, the British minister said that during his visit he will hold talks with Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, on a number of issues, the most important of which are the trade, economic and political relations between the two countries. The talks will also deal with recent issues in the Middle East region.

The British minister praised the efforts being exerted by the joint British-Omani committee and the accomplishments that have been achieved by the committee in the field of bilateral cooperation.

QATAR

Amir Receives Indian Leaders' Messages

GF121039 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1013 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] The amir of Qatar, His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, has received two written messages, one from Indian President Zail Singh, and one from Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on means of consolidating and expanding bilateral relations in various fields. The messages were conveyed by the Indian ambassador in Doha, S. Bashir Uddin, during his meeting with the amir of Qatar today.

AL-RAYAH Calls on Iran To Respond to Peace Moves

GF121924 Manama WAKH in English 1515 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Manama 12 Jan (WAKH) — A Qatari newspaper today called upon Iran to respond to calls for peace and cautioned Iranian leaders against dangers of the continuation of the war with Iraq.

Pointing out that the war depletes resources of the two warring states, *AL-RAYAH* newspaper said Iran's insistence on launching an offensive against Iraq is beyond understanding.

Contrasting statements by Iranian speaker of parliament Hashemi-Rafsanjani pledging an attack on Iraq with Iraq's readiness to stop the war, *AL-RAYAH* said a stance more acceptable to terminating the war had been expected from Tehran.

Because such a war could end with both Muslim states suffering incalculable losses and because the resources of the two Muslim countries should be deployed against the Muslims' prime enemy, the Zionist entity, the war should be stopped, *AL-RAYAH* said.

In conclusion, *AL-RAYAH* expressed hope that the Iranian officials' statements will not harm the efforts aimed at ending the war, so that peace could prevail over the area, and both Iraq and Iran save their efforts for cooperation and construction, and for countering dangers threatening Muslims.

SAUDI ARABIA

'UKAZ on U.S.-Egyptian 'Secret' Contacts

PM111600 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 9 Jan 85 p 1

[Hisham Milhim report: "Washington Sources Tell *'UKAZ*: 'U.S.-Egyptian Contacts Preceded Aqaba Summit'"]

[Text] Washington — Informed Arab diplomatic sources in Washington have revealed that high-level contacts took place between Egypt and the United States before Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's surprise visit to Jordan last Saturday. They added that President Mubarak's adviser on Political Affairs Dr Usamah al-Baz paid a secret visit to Washington 23-27 December and held talks with a number of U.S. officials including President Reagan's National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane and Under Secretary of State for Middle East Affairs Richard Murphy.

The same sources also said that Dr al-Baz told U.S. officials that the recent developments in the Middle East have created the right atmosphere in the region for a new U.S. move, but such a move should be made during the current year. They quoted Al-Baz as saying that "Cairo believes that if Washington gives the solving of Israeli economic problems priority over seriously considering a new U.S. initiative, then it would in fact destroy the chances of success of any future U.S. initiative because that would jeopardize the moves already initiated by the Arab sides, including Jordan, to revive the peace process and promote a solution to the Palestinian problem."

The sources noted that in his discussions with U.S. officials Dr al-Baz emphasized that if the United States hopes to achieve any success in its efforts to promote a settlement in the region then it must include the PLO in any such settlement and Washington must look for ways of establishing direct contacts with the PLO.

The sources added that the results of Dr al-Baz' visit to Washington were a point of discussion during President Mubarak's talks with King Husayn in Aqaba which were attended by Dr al-Baz.

'UKAZ has learned that Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid will visit Washington next month to prepare for President Mubarak's visit to the United States.

Meanwhile, Arab sources have revealed that during the recent meeting between King Husayn of Jordan and President Mubarak, the latter offered Jordan "security assistance" in the wake of the assassination of PLO Executive Committee Member Fahd al-Qawasimah. They added that the recent Egyptian move in the direction of Washington and Amman was initiated to contain a trend, which emerged after Al-Qawasimah's assassination, urging reconsideration of the position taken in favor of joining the peace plans for the region at this stage.

UAE

Vice President Returns From Pakistan

GF121032 Dubayy Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Excerpt] His Highness Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, vice president and prime minister, returned home from Karachi this morning after a private visit to Pakistan that lasted for several days.

Deputy Prime Minister Returns From Pakistan

GF111104 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Shaykh Maktum ibn Rashid al-Maktum, deputy prime minister and Dubai heir apparent, returned from Karachi today after a private visit to Pakistan which lasted for several days. He was received at the Dubayy airport by Muhammad ibn Rashid, minister of defense, and a number of shaykhs and senior officials.

UAE Official Meets Iran Majlis Delegation 13 Jan

GF131316 Doha QNA in Arabic 1145 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Jan (QNA) — Sayf Sa'id Sa'd, director of the GCC Department at the UAE Foreign Ministry, today met with the Iranian Majlis delegation visiting the UAE. They discussed bilateral relations and current developments in the region. The Iranian delegation includes Hoseyn Sobhani-Baha, member of the Majlis Foreign Relations Committee, and Majlis member 'Ali Reza Asadi-Bata.

The Iranian delegation arrived in Abu Dhabi on 12 January on a 2-day visit to the UAE, as part of a tour of a number of the countries in the region, to explain the Iranian view on current developments in the region.

An Iranian delegation led by Mohammad 'Arab, Iranian assistant foreign minister for administrative affairs, visited the UAE last week and discussed with officials current developments in the region.

Defense Minister on Emirate's Defense Capability

GF121800 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 11 Jan 85 P 4

[Interview with Muhammad ibn Rashid, UAE defense minister, by London *MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC DIGEST* (*MEED*) unidentified correspondent in the UAE (also to be published by MEED)]

[Text] [*MEED* correspondent] As minister of defense, can you give us a general picture of the UAE defense priorities as a member of the GCC? At the national level, is it possible to clarify the position of the Dubai Defense Force, "the central military region" within the overall UAE command structure with regard to decisionmaking, training, and weaponry?

[Muhammad ibn Rashid] We are a small and developing country. Our Army is small and developing, and its function is a peacekeeping one. We fully realize the implications of what goes on in the Gulf region and it is our right to have the required means to defend ourselves.

As you know, no small country can defend itself without being allied with friendly and fraternal countries. For this reason we are part of the GCC community, a small, strong link in that chain. We believe in unity, and are very happy with the success of this grouping of which we are a part. There were previous attempts at union by several countries, but they quickly broke up and failed. However, in the GCC we share similar culture and history, and our interests are identical.

Within the UAE framework, the Dubai Defense Force is the central military region, and consequently here we have a small Army unit. Our Army will be the first line of defense in the event of any aggression against the UAE. Likewise the GCC countries will intervene, and after that, our other friends will intervene.

The Central Military Region

[Correspondent] What about the financing of the Central Military Region?

[Rashid] Both Dubai and Abu Dhabi finance the federal Army, and the Dubai force is part of that army. Together we finance the state budget. Everything here is done in the name of the UAE. We do not move backward, but rather advance.

It appears to me from your question that there is a general doubt concerning the fusion of Dubai into the federal state, and for this reason let me tell you that we are within the federal state and we are proud of it, very, very proud. Anyone who speaks to the contrary is greatly lacking in insight. We have worked for the union and it has achieved a lot for us.

We are also proud of the GCC as we move forward and not backward. Outsiders will attempt to find a loophole or an error, but I can affirm the success of the union experiment and its continuance.

Dubai finances the union and this includes the Army, health, education, and all general services. If there occurs any gap we try to fill it. We are working for progress, and there is no going back whatever the obstacles.

Oil and OPEC

[Correspondent] Does Dubai's crude oil production fluctuate in keeping with the UAE's OPEC quota?

[Rashid] What applies to the state's oil production applies to Dubai's, since there exists an integration with the state's production to serve OPEC's aims. If the state reduces its production, then we all will sit together to reach agreement on how to handle the reduction, as we are all equal within the union.

[Correspondent] There is some anxiety with regard to the training of GCC forces and their ability to use modern, costly weapons, and the scanty contacts among the national leaderships. Are you confident of their aims?

[Rashid] I am very confident of the aim and purpose for which the GCC forces have been formed. I may criticize some inefficiency with regard to small details, but those who criticize and cast doubts are unaware of that aim. A UAE soldier is a GCC soldier, just like the rest of the citizens of the GCC countries. He has good standards like any soldier anywhere in the world. He is capable of learning how to use and control modern weapons and equipment.

If there are not enough contacts among the national leaderships, then we must work toward mending that. Weakness with respect to training is considered a minor detail in the larger picture. We have achieved a big step, and we will continue our program.

As to "the foreigners," they expect a quicker implementation of the program, but we have made the program and I can tell you that we are moving more quickly than that. Even NATO, after all these years, is still without an integral weapons system.

Dubai's Oil

[Correspondent] As regards the beginning of production from the "Margham" oil field, and the new survey that the Dubai Oil Company is making, in addition to the drilling of a new oil well by British Petroleum, all this indicates increasing activity in the oil and natural gas sector in Dubai. Can you give us a general picture of development in Dubai land and offshore fields?

[Rashid] "Margham" produces 250 million cubic feet of natural gas per day, which is stored for later use. In addition, British Petroleum is about to drill another well in its concession area and the Dubai Oil Company is making plans for two new experimental oil wells, and is currently making its own survey. In the offshore "Sidko" area the rest of the group are planning for drilling.

The Free Zone

[Correspondent] Can you tell us about government plans to develop Jabal 'Ali and the free trade zone, the only zone of its kind in the Gulf?

[Rashid] This subject is of great interest to me. We wish to encourage numerous companies to come to the free trade zone in Jabal 'Ali, which will be one of the best free zones in the region, in addition to its integrated structure. We want to turn it into an area from where we will export goods to the whole world.

Actually, it is difficult to give fine details at present because we are discussing the subject of the free trade zone, with all its implications, with the experts. The aim is to persuade the companies to come here. The regulations for this will be very practical, clear, simple, and very direct.

PDRY

Deputy Foreign Minister Returns 13 Jan

GF131608 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Brother Muhammad 'Ali 'Imayah, deputy foreign minister, arrived in Aden this morning after heading the delegation of the southern part of the homeland in the meeting of the Joint Yemeni Foreign Policy Committee from 8 to 10 January 1985.

In statement to ANA, Brother 'Imayah expressed his deep appreciation for the practical steps achieved by the committee within the framework of mutual coordination in the exchange of experiences by both ministries of the two parts of the homeland.

Construction Protocol Signed With GDR

GF111656 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Excerpt] A cooperation protocol was signed at the Ministry of Construction this morning between the PDRY Contruction Ministry and the GDR Construction Ministry. The agreement was signed on behalf of the PDRY by Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, YSP Central Committee member and construction minister, and on behalf of the GDR by Comrade Wolfgang Junker, minister of construction.

The protocol calls for the formation of a lateral committee from the joint PDRY-GDR Economic Committee, for holding training courses in the GDR for construction cadres, and for future cooperation in implementing joint projects, including the participation of GDR engineers and technicians in implementing projects for the public departments which belong to the Construction Ministry.

Mubarak Rejects Compromises, Concessions on Tabah
NC131350 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1335 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jan (MENA) -- In a statement today, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak affirmed that there will be no compromises or concessions made on Egyptian territory. In answer to a question by a foreign correspondent on the Tabah issue, Mubarak said: We are ready for negotiations to restore our land, but there will be no concessions or compromises. Mubarak added: Tabah is our land. It was occupied in 1956 and Egypt regained it; it was occupied again in 1967, so why should it not return to Egypt again?

The foreign reporter asked if there is anything that Israel could give Egypt as a quid pro quo for Tabah, or any concession that Israel could make that Egypt might need. Mubarak asked her in return if she would exchange her sons for anything. The reporter responded that this could never be.

Tabah Issue To Be Discussed 20 Jan in Beersheba
NC112040 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2027 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 11 Jan (MENA) — A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry said that 20 January has been fixed in principle for the first meeting between the Egyptian and Israeli sides to discuss the Tabah problem.

in a statement to *AL-AHRAM* newspaper to be published on Saturday, the source said the meeting will be held in Beersheba. He added that agreement on resuming the talks aimed at solving the Tabah problem is the start of implementing the 25 April 1982 agreement. The source pointed out that an Egyptian diplomatic and political move will begin at the summit level in Cairo and Western capitals during the next 3 months. The purpose of the move is to explain the Egyptian viewpoint on the ways to motivate the peace process in the Middle East at this stage and to strengthen relations between Egypt and these countries.

'Abd al-Majid Discusses Arab Relations, Tabah, U.S.
NC140655 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jan (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has said that Egypt welcomes the restoration of relations with any fraternal Arab state. At the same time, he said, we cannot demand or impose conditions on any Arab state just as we will not allow anyone to impose conditions on us.

In an interview to be published in the weekly newspaper *MAYU* on Monday, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that all Arab people are looking forward to the day when they will reunite and close their ranks. This is evident within Arab public opinion and is being increasingly reiterated after the Arab directives of President Husni Mubarak's policy have been established beyond any doubt.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid affirmed that Egypt supports the PLO in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He noted in this respect the attendance by a large Egyptian delegation at the PNC meetings, which were held recently in Amman, and the continued contacts between Egypt and PLO officials, both in Cairo and abroad.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that regarding relations with Israel, Egypt respects its pledges and commitments. At the same time, he said, we have pointed out to Israel that Egypt is an Arab state and that Israel must take into account that it is dealing with the largest state in the Arab world.

The foreign minister emphasized the importance of the Tabah area to Egypt and said: The Israeli leaders must consider that the Tabah question is a fundamental and principal question,it is a part of the Egyptian conscience, and Egypt will never give it up.

Answering a question regarding Egyptian-U.S. relations and Egyptian-Soviet relations, the foreign minister said that Egypt is eager to promote its relations with all countries and that these relations vary according to the extent of the link of Egyptian interests with these countries.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid stressed that the democracy that Egypt is presently enjoying is viewed abroad with appreciation. The steps of this democracy are being controlled and its moves are being monitored by many states and this has its reaction in all parts of the world, particularly in the Arab world.

Foreign Ministry Views Israeli Settlement Policy
NC121333 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Egypt expressed its profound regret today over the agreement reached between the Israeli Labor and Likud Parties on the establishment of new settlements on the West Bank. An official Foreign Ministry source said that Egypt's stand on the settlement operation is well known and that it has repeatedly denounced the establishment of settlements on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip, not only because this obstructs the path to peace, but because it is illegal. Egypt has demanded the cessation of these and any other Israeli measures that would alter the topographic or demographic structure of the occupied territories. The official source added: Our hope has always been that moderation would prevail in the current Israeli Government's policy. Such behavior by the Israeli Government will not achieve progress on the road to peace and stability. The Israeli Governemnt must avoid taking any measures that will only further aggravate the situation in the area.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Denounces Israeli Settlements
NC140715 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 14 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Regarding the establishment of settlements and the requirements of peace, today's *AL-JUMHURIYAH* editorial says: When Egypt reaffirmed its full denunciation of any operation to build new settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip,it based its stance on its steady efforts to achieve a just and

comprehensive peace in the Middle East and on its awareness of the threats to the peace process that are inherent in such Israeli actions.

The paper adds: At the same time, Egypt, by taking such a stance, is defending the international unanimity expressed in the numerous UN resolutions denouncing the building of settlements in the occupied territories and all the other Israeli measures that are aimed at altering the topographic and demographic structure of these territories. *AL-JUMHURIYAH* explains that the Israeli Government's decision to build new settlements is contrary to and fundamentally refutes all the claims that speak about Israel's desire for peace.

The paper adds that establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East has basic requirements represented in withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, abandonment of the policies of the hostile status quo, and recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. Israel must meet these requirements if it really wants to establish peace.

Pope Shinudah III Sends Cable to President Mubarak

NC121942 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1850 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 12 Jan (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received the following cable of thanks from Pope Shinudah III:

Mr President

Thank you very much for the love you have shown us on several occasions. I was greatly moved by your kind congratulations cable to us on Christmas, by the words of love and patriotism it contained, and by the deep principles it upheld. May God keep for you your great heart, preserve your wisdom, and always keep Egypt a good example of love, peace, and security in which Muslims and Christians live together with one heart that pulsates with the love of Egypt and with one spirit that believes in one God whom we all worship and whose holy name we glorify. Let your era be a blessed one in which our homeland enjoys confidence, security, love, and peace.

Mr President, our country has always transcended events and emerged from them proud, thus reflecting a wonderful and living picture constantly repeated in Egypt's glorious history. We declare to all that the Muslims and Christians are brothers who put their love for God, the homeland, and for each other above any consideration, who cooperate for Egypt's sake and its well-being, and who aspire to a bright future under your wise leadership.

ICO Delegation Makes 3-Day Visit to Egypt

Arrives in Cairo

NC121528 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] An ICO Delegation led by the Pakistani president's adviser arrived in Cairo today on a 3-day visit to Egypt. President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will receive the delegation which will hold talks with Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, deputy prime minister and minister of higher education and scientific research, and other Egyptian officials. The talks will deal with strengthening relations between Egypt and the ICO's Islamic center.

Received by Mubarak

NC131406 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] This morning, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received an ICO delegation led by the Pakistani president's adviser for science and technology. After the meeting, the adviser said that he had conveyed a message to President Mubarak from Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq pertaining to the Islamic countries' program of joint action on science and technology. He said that the goal is to establish advanced technological centers in the Islamic countries in an effort to solve their problems. He added that President Mubarak expressed support for this program and that he asked him to convey an oral message to Pakistani President Ziaul Haq.

Minister Gives Figures on Oil Production

NC122055 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 12 Jan (MENA) — 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, has declared that the total production of the oil fields during 1984-85 will reach about 45.2 million tons [tun], including 41.1 million tons of crude oil and 4.1 million tons of natural gas and other by-products.

Addressing a meeting of the People's Assembly Industry and Energy Committee held under committee chairman Dr Faruq Jaramah tonight, Qandil said that Egypt's reserve of natural gas is estimated at 12 trillion cubic feet. He added that Egypt's revenue from the oil sector is expected to reach 2.39 billion pounds during 1984-85 and that consumption of butane gas will reach 650,000 tons during the same year.

Briefs

Export Statistics — Cairo, 14 Jan (MENA) — Economy Minister Dr Mustafa al-Sa'id said that the value of industrial exports in 1983-84 increased by 26 percent over 1982-83, and that agricultural exports increased by 16 percent in the same period. He said that the exports of the spinning and weaving secotr reached 400 million pounds in 1983-84, demonstrating anicrease of 150 million pounds over exports in 1982-83. [Excerpt] [*Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 14 Jan 85 NC*]

Reportage on Combat Operations in Gulf War

2 Maritime Targets Hit

JN111635 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1545 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Jan (INA) — A military communique has stated that during military activities in the past 24 hours, the Iraqi forces killed four Iranians in the operational sector east of Basra and the Maysan sector.

Communique No 1,708 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command here this evening added that Iraqi forces also destroyed two infantry positions in the central sector. The communique said that the Iranian forces shelled a civilian area in the Basra suburbs with heavy artillery. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,708 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Through their daily heroic activities, the brave and righteous soldiers reaffirm the defeat of falsehood and its followers and tangibly express that benevolent and proud Iraq will proceed from victory to victory until its enemies surrender to right with humility. The following are the results of the activities for yesterday evening and today.

1. In implementation of our unswerving course to besiege Iranian ports until the Iranian regime accepts the call for peace and acknowledges our legitimate rights in international waterways, and as new proof of Iraq's capability that we give to the Iranian rulers who have been blinded by their hatred, the aircraft of our Air Force carried out two successful raids against two maritime targets near Khark Island.

Our aircraft hit their first target, a large one, at 1344 [1044 GMT] and hit their second target, a medium one, at 1345 [1045 GMT]. The hawks of the air returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. As a result of continuous blows dealt by the artillery of our forward units to enemy positions, equipment, weapon emplacements, and engineering activities in the operation sector east of Basra, the enemy sustained losses in life and equipment amounting to two weapon emplacements, one observation post, and one infantry position destroyed, one excavator hit, and one enemy soldier killed. Columns of smoke were seen billowing from the hit positions.

3. One of our forward units pounded enemy positions and troop concentrations in the Maysan sector with all types of weapons, killing three, wounding others, destroying one enemy observation post and one infantry position, and hitting one 120 mm mortar.

4. Two infantry positions were destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

5. The criminal enemy shelled a civilian area in the Basra suburbs with heavy artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 11 January 1985

More on Attacked Targets

JN112105 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2040 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Hasan al-Kashif dispatch from Baghdad carried within "Panorama" program]

[Text] The Iraqi Air Force raided two maritime targets, one large and the other of medium size, at around 1400 today. The raid took place near Khark Island and comes as a challenge to Iran, according to the Iraqi military spokesman's statement, until the Iranian regime accepts complete peace and opens waterways to all parties.

It is worth mentioning that Baghdad accepts partial peace in Gulf waters if this will lead to comprehensive peace. This is what Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, stated before the Iraqi parliament in its recent session, and this is contained in Iraqi military communiques.

On the targets which are attacked by the Iraqi Air Force, all indications show that most of them belong to Iran, which for some time has been adopting the method of selling its oil by transporting it on tankers with a capacity reaching 50,000 tons. These tankers transport the oil from Khark Island to Sirri and Lavan Islands, in the southern Arab Gulf, where the tankers which refuse to enter the exclusion zone wait to transport Iranian oil.

11-12 Jan Actions Reported

JN121714 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Communique No 1,709 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 12 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassioante.

In order to inflict the greatest possible losses on the enemy, our Armed Forces have continued to strike at the enemy's collapsing forces along the frontline. The following is a summary of operations for last night and today:

1. Sighting a group of enemy personnel and a number of its vehicles opposite their forward position in the Central sector, our forward units opened fire, killing six and wounding others. Our forces damaged one vehicle and destroyed one infantry position, killing or wounding those manning it.

2. Formations of our forward units east of Basra pounded enemy positions and artillery positions, killing four and destroying one mortar. One large enemy vehicle was hit and two infantry positions were destroyed and those manning them were killed. The enemy was seen in a state of panic, trying to evacuate its casualties.

3. Using artillery, our units pounded selected enemy targets in the Maysan sector, scoring effective hits and inflicting losses in men, equipment, and supplies.

4. One infantry position was destroyed in the northern sector of the front.

5. New groups of Iranian civilians, as well as military personnel, sought refuge with our units in the central and northern sectors. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

6. The enemy shelled a civilian area near Basra with heavy artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 January 1985

Targets Hit, Plane Downed

JN131734 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Communique No 1,710 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 13 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The proud Iraqis, who are defending their territory and accomplishments, building the homeland of happiness and justice, and calling for peace from a position of strength and out of faith in the human being and ideals, thank God for daily granting them success and splendid victory over their criminal enemies. God is the best to protect and the best to help. [Koranic verse]

The following is a roundup of the activities carried out by our units yesterday evening and today:

1. We address fair words, confirmed by daring action, to Iran's rulers and all those who hope to infiltrate to the sources of Iranian oil in order to obtain their supplies cheaply at the expense of our national interests. We tell them that the law of war being practiced by Iraq will make them pay a heavy price and that they alone will be responsible.

Accordingly, and in confirmation of Iraq's right and ability, our Air Force launched a lightning attack on two maritime targets, one of large size and another of medium size, near Khark Island at 1230 [0930 GMT] today and added them to the long list of targets hit with God's help and with the skill of the tough hawks. Our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Two enemy aircraft tried to violate our international border in the Maysan sector. Our ground defenses intercepted them and managed to down one of them, while the second fled the area.

3. In successful attacks, the brave helicopter gunship heroes carried out daring air raids against enemy personnel and equipment in the Maysan sector, destroying two steamboats and one personnel hideout. Columns of smoke were seen billowing from the attacked area. Our heroes returned with their aircraft safely and triumphantly.

4. Our forward units continued to pound the defeated enemy forces in the operational sector east of Basra, inflicting losses in personnel and equipment. Three enemy personnel were killed; six infantry positions, two medium machine gun emplacements, and one mortar were destroyed; and fires were started in some of the attacked targets. The enemy was seen evacuating its losses.

5. Using artillery and various other weapons, our forward units pounded several enemy positions and concentrations in the Central sector of the operational theater, inflicting massive losses in personnel and equipment. Our units also managed to destroy two infantry positions, killing their occupants.

Elsewhere in the Central sector, in a daring operation, one of our combat patrols managed to inflict losses on enemy personnel and equipment. One enemy soldier was captured and evaucated to the rear. The patrol returned safely to base.

6. Fire was opened on the enemy's fortified positions and mortars in the Maysan sector by our capable artillery, destroying one enemy infantry position and inflicting other losses.

7. The heroic artillery men carried out concentrated strikes against enemy positions and weapon emplacements in the northern sector of the operational theater, inflicting losses in men and equipment.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 13 January 1985

Iranian Ship Hit

GF131200 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Shipping sources in Manama confirmed today that an 18,000-ton Iranian ship was discovered crippled in the waters of the Arabian Gulf in the wake of an Iraqi air attack on Friday. The sources confirmed that the ship, which was called *Indal*, has been hit by an Iraqi missile in its right side.

Commander Warns Against Aggression

JN120732 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0635 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 12)Jan (INA) — The staff brigadier general commanding the operations east of Tigris has said that if a new aggression is launched against them, the Iraqi forces' goal will be to destroy the largest number of Iranian forces.

In a press statement here today, he added that the forces east of Tigris are preparing to confront any new aggression, and that they possess weapons and equipment that can inflict the largest possible losses on the Iranians. Indicating that this state of affairs is developing in line with the development of fighting techniques and war experience, he said: In the next battles, the Iranian enemy will see twice what it has seen in previous battles.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Says Khark Siege To Continue

JN120700 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0625 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Jan (INA) — An Iraqi paper has stressed that Iraq's painful blows to the Iranian rulers' interests can be stopped only by attaining peace or by destroying the Iranian aggressors.

In an editorial today, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says that the failure of efforts to peacefully resolve the Iraq-Iran conflict and the international community's impotence in deterring the Iranian rulers will prompt Iraq to use all the power in its possession to restore the Iranian rulers to their senses.

It asserts that the Khark Island siege will continue and that every maritime target dealing with Iranian ports will be strongly hit. It points out that Iraq possesses the means with which it can increase the effectiveness of its siege and tighten the noose around the Iranian rulers' necks.

The paper stresses that Iraq will not let the Iranian rulers catch their breath or get a chance to improve their conditions.

Tariq 'Aziz Receives UN Investigation Team

JN121937 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, held a meeting this evening with the committee formed by the UN secretary general to investigate conditions of POW's in both Iraq and Iran. He welcomed the committee and stressed Iraq's readiness to provide all the necessary facilities to enable it to carry out its duties in the best possible way. He also pointed out that Iraq had called for forming that committee and allowed it to visit Iraq first, despite the crimes that the Iranian regime committed against Iraqi POW's, a fact that the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) had confirmed, in order to undermine all the Iranian rulers' pretexts aimed at preventing the international organization from acquainting itself with the conditions of the POW's.

Tariq 'Aziz also explained the great need for the committee to succeed in removing the unjust conditions imposed on Iraqi POW's in Iran and guaranteeing their treatment according to the Geneva convention and international law. He stressed Iraq's continued concern about abiding by such a convention and international law and its full readiness to cooperate with the United Nations and the ICRC to achieve that objective.

The committee formed by the UN secretary general arrived in Baghdad last night on a visit to Iraq, to be followed by a visit to Iran, in order to acquaint itself with the conditions of POW's in both countries.

Trade Minister Confers With Polish Official

JN121727 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, met with Andrzej Dorosz, under secretary at the Polish Ministry of Foreign Trade, in Baghdad today. They reviewed bilateral economic and trade cooperation and means of developing it.

King Husayn Leaves for Talks With Kuwait Amir

JN132229 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn left Amman for Kuwait this morning on a short working visit, during which he will meet with Kuwaiti Amir His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah to discuss issues related to the situation in the region and bilateral relations. This visit is within the framework of His Majesty King Husayn's consultations with Arab leaders to coordinate Arab stands in service of joint interests.

His majesty was seen off at Amman airport by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, the Senate president, the House of Representatives speaker, the court minister, the chief chamberlain, the deputy minister and interior minister, ministers, and ranking state officials.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan was sworn in before His Majesty King Husayn and Cabinet ministers as regent during his majesty's absence abroad. His majesty is accompanied on this visit by Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, Jordanian Armed Forces commander in chief.

AL-DUSTUR Praises Gulf Tour

JN141356 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 14 Jan 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Husayn's Gulf Tour"]

[Text] King Husayn's current tour of the Arab Gulf countries, as well as his visit to fraternal Saudia Arabia, fall within the framework of distinguished fraternal relations and are in accordance with the deep-rooted Jordanian tradition in the pan-Arab sphere. It also comes as a continuation of efforts which Jordan has never abandoned on all levels to revive Arab solidarity and stop the current state of collapse in this nation's ranks. While Jordan and its leadership are certain that the Arabs cannot do without the weapon of a unified Arab stand — without which they will not be able to face external challenges — some continue to bury their heads in the sand and show indifference to the dangers that await them in the near future and the lurking plots that are no longer hidden.

While Jordan continues to warn about the danger of perpetuating the current Arab situation and the division, weakness, and slackness that will follow, some Arab voices come out in defense of the existing pan-Arab numbness and minimize the importance of all Arab meetings and efforts aimed at bypassing this dilemma, which deepens day after day — efforts which will transcend the state of isolation and paralysis on all levels.

Therefore, Jordan's dedicated, continued efforts to restore the meaning of pan-Arab responsibility, revive solidarity, and build an Arab stand that is able to respond to the spirit of this age and its challenges fall within the framework of its pioneering pan-Arab policy which motivates Jordan and is the focal point of its stands and moves on the Arab level. Husayn's current Gulf tour is a truthful, faithful expression of Jordan's pan-Arab policy. This tour is particularly significant because of Jordan's deep fraternal relations with Arab Gulf countries and in light of the special responsibility these countries are shouldering on the pan-Arab level. Thus Husayn's tour is of interest to observers and is a source of optimism for all the faithful Arabs who aspire to end this painful chapter of Arab history and open a bright and cheerful one.

Swedish Trade Minister Arrives in Amman

JN132027 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Swedish Minister of External Trade Mr Mats Hellstrom arrived in Amman this evening on a 3-day official visit to Jordan. The Swedish minister and an accompanying delegation will hold talks with Minister of Industry and Trade Dr Jawad al-'Anani and other Jordanian officials on promoting economic cooperation between Sweden and Jordan. Dr al-'Anani was at the airport to meet the Swedish minister upon his arrival in Amman.

Industry Minister on Need To Increase Exports

JN131542 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 13 Jan 85 p 3

[Text] Amman — Jordan will this year reduce its imports and increase its exports in a drive to make available $400 to $500 million to offset the adverse effects on the national economy by foreign influences and factors, Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad al-'Anani has been quoted as saying.

In an interview published by the local press, the minister said that the adverse influences on Jordan's economy began to affect the country at a time when the national industries reached the stage of maturity and full production.

This is what we call bad luck, because we had made sure that our plans and programmes of production were perfect and one hundred per cent sound, the minister said.

He said that Jordan invested millions of dinars in major industrial projects like cement, potash and fertilisers and expanded its phosphates production.

"These projects should provide half of Jordan's total exports, but unfortunately a drop in prices occurred on the international markets and the price of raw materials rose, which made it impossible for us to market the products as planned," Dr al-'Anani said. The minister stressed the need to increase exports and pointed out that last year's exports reached $230 million and this year's target is $1,000 million. At least we should secure $250 million worth of hard currency for the treasury this year, Dr. al-'Anani said.

For this to happen, Dr. al-'Anani added, Jordan has signed an agreement with Iraq for selling national products in exchange for crude oil and Jordan also expects its exports to Egypt this year to reach $75 million instead of $10 million in 1984. Most of Jordan's exports to these countries will be cement, building materials, refrigerators, washing machines and electrical appliances, the minister pointed out.

He said that Jordan's potash production is expected to increase this year from 450,000 to 800,000 tonnes while phosphate production will rise from 4,8 million to 5.7 million tonnes and fertilisers will reach 700,000 tonnes to make it possible for the export of two million tonnes.

There is a good chance of exporting this much because Jordan had signed new agreements with a number of nation to sell its fertilisers, the minister added.

On the domestic front, the government will facilitate the marketing of national products locally by increasing customs duty on imported products similar to our own and will prohibit the importation of certain goods. There are also plans for awarding all tenders to local contractors to save money, the minister said.

All these measures, he said, are bound to increase the sale of Jordan's local products in the Jordanian market at a rate between JD 70 to JD 80 million over last year's figures.

The aim of increasing exports and reducing imports should go hand in hand with plans to increase and promote agriculture and tourism, the minister said.

According to Dr. al-'Anani nearly 300,000 Jordanians visited Greece and Cyprus, among other countries, in the holidays of 1984 and spent millions of dinars on their vacation.

Instead, he said, plans should focus on encouraging domestic tourism and promoting the marketing of Jordan's tourism abroad to attract foreign visitors to Jordan's tourist and archaeological sites.

In agriculture the minister suggested that new lands should be reclaimed and more efforts should be made to grow cereals. He said that Jordan normally imports wheat worth JD 80 million a year and JD 25 million worth of meat and fish.

The minister said "there should be a-rationalistion of consumption of food and energy and we should rely more and more on our local products." He said "through rationalisation of energy we can cut our bill by $50 to $70 million annually and we can give the surplus energy produced, especially electric power, to regions which have not yet been supplied with power. In times of difficulty, austerity measures become a welcome measure, but the most important thing, however, is for the public to respond favourably to government measures," Dr. al-'Anani added.

Port of Aqaba Seen as Route for Iraqi Imports

JN130809 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 13 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] It has been learned that important contacts are currently underway between Jordan and Iraq to organize and coordinate the process of transporting, unloading, and storing goods destined for Iraq through the port of Aqaba to benefit the two fraternal countries.

It is worth noting that Iraq's imports through the port of Aqaba in 1984 could reach nine million tons of various goods.

Charles Percy Arrives in Amman 12 Jan

JN130810 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 13 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] Charles Percy, former chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has arrived in Amman yesterday on a brief visit to Jordan.

Press Comments on UNRWA Financial Crisis

JN111306 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 11 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "UNRWA and the Liquidation Plan," *AL-DUSTUR* says: The big power plans which were charted at the turn of this century and then implemented by stages in order to establish Israel in the heart of the Arab homeland at the expense of the Palestinian people — the owners of the homeland and the territory — are still proceeding along their charted course in order to eradicate the Palestine question from the minds of the world nations and to eliminate the remaining vestiges of the crime represented by the Palestinian refugee camps.

If the plan has so far succeeded in using arms and funds to entrench the foundations of the alien entity on Arab territory and to push the Palestine question to the bottom of the list of issues concerning the world public, the continued existence of the refugee camps will remain living proof of the crime. They will remind people of their free conscience and call on them to do justice to those in the camps. Therefore, the liquidation of the question and what is left of its people is moving along two parallel lines which support one another. It is solely in this context that we understand the annual measures to reduce UNRWA services to the Palestinian refugees. It is also in this context that we understand the various international excuses and arguments the donor nations make in order to justify the continued decrease in their annual contributions to the UNRWA budget.

AL-DUSTUR continues: The protest campaigns against UNRWA, due to the reduction in the refugees' health and education services, have become an annual affair in which protest cables are dispatched and meetings and demonstrations are organized. However, the reduction measures continue despite all this uproar, because they are linked to a firm plan by the states which are interested in liquidating the subject of refugees. They are gradually proceeding with this plan without much ado. The campaign against the UNRWA directorate, represented by General Commissioner Rydbeck, may be justified if it is confined to criticizing the administrative extravagance, for example, or the excessive expenditures of senior employees in Vienna.

Reason and logic demand that these people should be in the same area as the refugees, if even out of good taste, in order to make them feel a participation in the tragedy. Still, all this is trivial and does not tackle the core of the problem. The problem is that the nations financing the UNRWA fund are reducing their contributions to it every year. The Arab countries, whether individually or collectively, have called on these nations to be a little neutral and to resort to their free conscience.

The paper adds: If we do not stop the UNRWA directorate from joining — whether wittingly or unwittingly — the plan to liquidate the Palestinian refugee question by the mean methods it has pursued in reducing services, we believe that the full responsibility for this tampering with the refugees' destiny falls on the Arab states, especially those which have hosted hundreds of thousands of refugees and which will have to handle the situation by themselves if UNRWA collapses. This year's UNRWA budget deficit of $60 million is nothing compared to the aid that the United States pays to Israel to build settlements, absorb new immigrants, and enable the Israeli military establishment to continue its aggression and expansion. Therefore, it is difficult for us to believe that a lack or shortage of funds has prevented the donor nations, headed by the United States, from continuing to support the UNRWA budget.

AL-DUSTUR concludes by asking: What means of pressure do the Arab states have of making the United States and the Western states continue to expiate their crime against the Palestinians by helping the Palestinian refugees? Nothing, if the state of disintegration, frustration, and lack of reason continues. However, they can do a great deal if they reject the fait accompli and muster the will for action. Do they want, do they really want to do that?

Under the headline "The UNRWA Issue Is Part of the Whole Question," *SAWT AL-SHA'B* says: The UNRWA issue has again caught the news headlines in view of its political and humanitarian impact on the Palestinian question. The issue has emerged following a series of events the region has recently witnessed. The Palestinian refugees' suffering, which has increased with the increase in the savage Zionist onslaught on the camps in Lebanon both during and after the armed invasion of southern Lebanon, has been accompanied by a continuous drop in UNRWA services to Palestinian refugees — services that are intended to alleviate the suffering caused by destitution and expulsion from the usurped homeland. This reduction has continued day after day to the point where there is a threat that vital services will be suspended.

UNRWA Commissioner General Olof Rydbeck affirms that the agency will be compelled to cancel health centers, schools, and other establishments in view of the budget deficit, which amounts to $33 million. He said that the agency will also be compelled to adopt what he termed harsh measures in order to cope with its financial crisis. Although the commissioner general himself admits that international contributions to UNRWA's budget have not diminished or changed, he says the agency's services to the refugees will reduced due to the increase in the value of the dollar. This reason cannot really reflect the truth of the problem. It is only a cover for a bigger attempt to gradually liquidate the agency and end its role in alleviating the burdens of the blatant Zionist aggression against the Palestinian people and their land.

SAWT AL-SHA'B adds: While UNRWA circles are complaining and hinting at the continuous reduction in the agency's services to Palestinian refugees and while they are facing growing and recurring financial burdens which are increasing with the prolongation of the Palestinian tragedy, we find that the Zionist entity is entrenching its demographic existence on Palestinian territory by bringing in Jewish immigrants from everywhere and by setting up an airlift to bring in thousands of Falashas from Ethiopia, in order to settle them on the land of the displaced Palestinians who live in tents and at the mercy of human conscience.

Moreover, while the United States speaks about human rights and sets up a special fund to resettle Falashas in the West Bank and Gaza, it arrogantly denies the Palestinian people's right to return to their land. In fact, the United States helps in entrenching the fait accompli, liquidating the Palestine question, and enabling Zionism to control all of the Palestinian soil. Such stands reflect an aggressive alliance not only against the Palestinians, but against all Arabs and all justice and peace-loving people who believe in the principles of human rights. Thus, the United States and Zionism are in one trench that is hostile to all values of justice and rights in this world.

SAWT AL-SHA'B concludes by affirming that the UNRWA problem is one of human morals. The paper says: The effects and tragedy of this problem will increase and grow with the growth of the Palestinian people's tragedy. Palestinian human rights are being sacrificed on the altar of Zionist ambitions and hostile racist alliances. Unless the Palestine question finds its way to a just, comprehensive solution, guaranteeing Palestinians the right to return and the right to self-determination on Palestinian soil, the UNRWA issue will become one of the biggest and most complicated problems that the region and the world will face in the foreseeable future.

Sha'ban Warns U.S. of Impending Attacks

NC140617 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] The Islamic group held a ceremony at the Al-Mansuriyah Mosque in Tripoli yesterday in honor of the southern martyrs. The ceremony was attended by Ahmad al-Khatib, commander of the army of Arab Lebanon, and representatives of the organizations and parties in the north.

Addressing the ceremony, Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of the Islamic Unification Movement, hailed the steadfastness being displayed by the sons of the south and the Lebanese national and Islamic resistance men vis-a-vis the Israeli occupation.

Shaykh Sha'ban warned the United States that operations will be carried out against it and on its land in retaliation for the people of the south and Palestine. Shaykh Sha'ban said that no one can face the Islamic tide, which has started to upset the White House.

Islamic Movement Opens Center in North

NC111244 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Security reports from the north say that a few days ago Islamic Unification Movement leader Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban inaugurated a center for his gunmen in Al-Qalamun. Sha'ban had also installed television transmission equipment in Al-Mina' near the Freres School above the Climatex Establishment Building.

An office of the Iranian Embassy will be opened in the same building where the Iranian flags have been hoisted.

The Islamic Unification Movement has enlisted in its ranks many Indians and Sri Lankans working in Lebanon to carry out sabotage operations outside Tripoli.

Appeal Issued for Release of Abducted Priest

NC111545 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1510 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] We have an appeal from the Catholic Relief Services:

Father Lawrence Jenco, Catholic Relief Services director, abducted by armed gunmen last Tuesday, has not been released. An urgent plea is being made to consider the father's serious heart condition and to release him today. He has been working here in Lebanon only to assist those in need and there exists no reason why he should be submitted to this suffering. We plead with his abductors to return him now.

Reportage on Army Deployment Along Coastal Road

Troop Deployment Order Issued

NC120644 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Last night, Army Commander General Michel 'Awn issued an order of the day for the troops who will be fulfilling their national duty by deploying along the coastal road, in accordance with the security plan. General 'Awn said: The security aspects of your mission include opening the coastal road from Beirut to the south, spreading security and reassurance in Iqlim al-Kharrub, and establishing cause for confidence among the citizens. Your presence will have a calming influence and will guarantee security for all. You have proven to date that you have always been a rescue team and a bridge to national accord. You are the vanguard of the great march to end the bloodshed, to entrench national sovereignty in all parts of Lebanon, and to establish peace and security therein.

The Army commander added: Soldiers, your deployment along the coastal road is extremely important. It is designed to serve an objective agreed upon by our political authorities — to move to the south, which has long awaited its soldiers and defenders. You must always be prepared to complete the march, regardless of circumstances. You must have no feelings of anxiety. An impregnable and united front is the best guarantee of the success of your mission. This has been agreed to by all concerned parties, and it is what you will consolidate in your area of deployment. Be prepared to move at any moment. Your mission goes beyond the mere opening of a road, and involves the entire homeland.

Army Forces Move To Deploy

NC120713 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Excerpt] A 0810 today, the vanguard of the military forces moved to deploy between Khaldah and the Al-Awwali River, acting to reopen the coastal road and link the south with Beirut following a long disruption imposed by successive security and political developments.

Military personnel began to gather at the Henry Shahab Barracks at 0700 today and then moved toward Al-Awza'i. The military force, a part of the 12th Brigade, totals 1,700 personnel, with support from a tank company that will be stationed in the township of Al-Jiyah. The force is commanded by Colonel Hasan Tub and its chief of staff is Colonel Albert Khuri. The three battalions that comprise it will be deployed as follows:

A battalion supported by a logistics platoon will be deployed between Khaldah, Al-Dammur, and Al-Sa'diyat;

A battalion supported by a logistics platoon will be deployed between Al-Sa'diyat, Al-Rumaylah, and 'Alman;

A support battalion with both armor and logistics platoons will be deployed in Al-Jiyah.

In preparation for this deployment and in fulfillment of the agreement among the concerned parties, the Lebanese Forces began to withdraw their units from Iqlim al-Kharrub yesterday

evening, after having collected the heavy weapons in Al-Jiyyah. The Progressive Socialist Party followed suit.

Army Completes Deployment

NC121710 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Statement issued by the Lebanese Army Command's Guidance Directorate on 12 January]

[Text] The operations order for the coastal plan was implemented at 0800 today. The Army force took up the positions set for it on the coastal road and in Iqlim al-Kharrub. The force completed its deployment at 1630, and is now making the necessary preparations and taking measures to secure the opening of the road for citizens.

Phalangists, Lahd Army Deployment

NC122053 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Regarding the implementation of the security plan and despite all the facilities given by the Progressive Socialist Party, it seems that the Phalangist forces, which are wagering on Israel, do not want this plan to succeed. Today, they prevented the Army battalion from taking up positions in Al-Sa'diyat as set out in the plan. Nizar Najarian, who is in charge of the Phalangist forces in the south, has rejected the deployment of the Army in Al-Sa'diyat.

In addition to this, another development took place which has grave consequences. Elements from the army of agent Antoine Lahd entered 'Alman and prevented the Army force from proceeding. This force remained in Al-Rumaylah.

The Phalangist forces have, up to this hour, not withdrawn from their positions and have not implemented what has been agreed on in the security plan. This raises more than one question about the Phalangist forces' intentions.

'Roadblock' Prevents Al-Awwali Deployment

NC130609 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The final phase of the implementation of the coastal road security plan was completed yesterday with the deployment of 1,700 troops from the 12th Brigade along the coastal road from Khaldah to Al-Rumaylah.

However, a roadblock placed by the Israeli occupation forces on the Al-Rumaylah-'Alman-Bisri road has prevented the Army's units from reaching the area of Bisri and deploying there. The Lebanese Army forces are now about a kilometer from the Al-Awwali River bridge and are ready to move toward Bisri as soon as the problem of their interception by the Israelis is resolved through international political contacts.

Army Issues Statement on Return of Evacuees

NC131817 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Statement issued by the Lebanese Army Command Guidance Directorate on 13 January]

[Text] Following the completion of the Army deployment along the coastal highway and in Iqlim al-Kharrub yesterday, the citizens who had evacuated the area attempted to return to their villages and homes and asked the Army Command to ensure their return.

The Army Command wishes to point out to these citizens that the Lebanese evacuee issue is the concern of higher political authorities, and their return is linked with a subsequent political decision.

Reportage on 12 January Cabinet Meeting

Karami on Cabinet Session

NC121430 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Following today's Cabinet session, Prime Minister Rashid Karami said that the government has entrusted the committee following up on the issue of the kidnapped persons to implement the Cabinet's decision by completing its task of securing the release of all detained persons and by finishing its examination of the submitted lists within a month.

He added that the Cabinet reviewed the deployment of the Army to the Al-Awwali River, noting the complete implementation of the plan. He said: The success of this is an indication that we hope will bear fruit in our efforts to open the northern road, which the Military Council has been given a week to do, as well as the road to Damascus.

Al-Jumayyil Remarks Reported

NC121547 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1510 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] The Cabinet held an extraordinary session today at the Presidential Palace in B'abda to study the deteriorating economic situation and to take action designed to halt the decline in financial and economic conditions in the country. The meeting, chaired by President Amin al-Jumayyil and attended by Prime Minister Karami, also provided opportunity for the appointment of a number of key figures to fill vacant posts in the government administration.

President al-Jumayyil began the meeting by officially notifying the Cabinet that the Lebanese Army had started moving toward the Al-Awwali River. He said that the Army would continue to deploy its units in the positions agreed upon. President al-

Jumayyil pointed out that the country was facing difficult economic conditions, partly due to the growing deficit and lack of collection of taxes.

The president said that the Cabinet had to assume its responsibility and to take action to deal with the problems facing the national economy. He called for improved supervision of public administration and stressed the need for steps to activate the economy.

The president also referred to security affairs with an emphasis on the kidnapping of innocent people, which he strongly condemned. The president welcomed the recent release of the Swiss charge d'affaires who was kidnapped several days earlier. President al-Jumayyil said that it was up to the ministers to set the example and lead the way to bring conditions under control.

The president said that the implementation of the coastal security plan should lead to other improvements and to the reopening of highways to the north and to the east. President al-Jumayyil stressed that there was a need for basic solutions to problems facing the nation in order to overcome existing economic difficulties.

Cabinet Makes New Appointments
NC121441 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] The meeting the Cabinet held today ended at 1515 after 4 hours of elaborate debates and discussion. The following appointments have been made:

Director General of Information
Dr Ayyub Humayyid
Chairman of the Television Board of Directors
Dr Michel Samahah
Governor of the Bank of Lebanon
Edmond Na'im
Deputy Governors of the Bank of Lebanon
Dr Husayn Kan'an
Majid Junblatt
Samir 'Akkari
Makardish Baldukian

A Banks Control Committee has also been composed as follows:

Chairman
Walid Naja
Members
Shukri Du'aybis
George Kufiyah
Ja'far Shalabi

The position for the Catholic member remains vacant.

Dr Muhammad Baydun has been appointed chairman of the Southern Council. Dr Munah Mansur, former director general of information, has been transferred to the Foreign Ministry.

A committee has also been formed to study the measures that have been drawn up by the committees for remedying the economic problem.

Al-Husayni Makes Statement After Committee Meeting
NC121639 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1510 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] The parliamentary information and fact-finding committee for south Lebanon and west Al-Biqa' met today at the residence of the Speaker [of the Chamber of Deputies] Husayn al-Husayni.

The meeting was attended by former Ministers Michel Iddih and Ja'far Sharaf al-Din and by former Ambassador Nabil Dimashqiyah, as well as by Ghassan Shiblawi, George Dib, and Khalid Qabbani. Former Minister Sami Yunis could not be present due to a meeting of the Legislative Decrees Committee.

Discussions centered on the results of the European and African tour of former Minister Michel Iddih who heads the committee. Discussions also centered on the outline of a program of action to help liberate south Lebanon and west Al-Biqa' and to brief the world communities on details of Israeli arbitrary measures in the occupied areas. The next meeting of the committee will be held at 1100 next Wednesday to complete the discussions.

Following the meeting, Speaker al-Husayni said that members of the committee would be travelling to Tunisia for a meeting with the Arab League secretary general and to inform Arab League officials on the situation in the occupied areas of Lebanon. The forthcoming meetings with Arab League officials were discussed today.

Speaker al-Husayni welcomed the steps taken to implement the coastal security plan and described them as the first step toward the liberation of the south. He stressed the importance of establishing the credibility of the Lebanese Army and of refusing Israeli attempts to cast doubt on the credibility of the Lebanese Armed Forces.

The speaker said that he expected the next move to be designed to crack down on crime in the country. The speaker said that all illegal actions and every crime was designed to support the position of Israel, to raise questions about the ability of the Lebanese authorities to maintain law and order.

USSR Envoy Meets Foreign Ministry Official
NC121150 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon Aleksandr Soldatov has reported that he and Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, held a thorough exchange of views today on the situation in Lebanon, the region, and the world.

Asked whether the Soviet Union supports the concept of an expanded deployment of UNIFIL troops should security arrangements be agreed upon, Soldatov said:

We have repeatedly explained our position on this issue, and we have no wish to repeat it. In short, we support any active effort that will help to secure the prompt withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanese territory without conditions.

Reportage on Two West Beirut Explosions

Casualties Reported

NC121116 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1100 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] At 1215 today, an explosion occurred in the vicinity of the Al-Ghubayri gasoline station in the Cola area of West Beirut. A number of people were killed and wounded as a result.

At 1220, another explosion took place near the Arab University, producing a number of casualties. The exact number has not yet been determined.

Following the two explosions, rescue and civil defense teams rushed to evacuate the casualties. The Lebanese Red Crescent Society has appealed to the citizens to donate blood, to save the lives of the wounded.

3 Killed in Explosions

NC121330 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] It has been determined that each of the two explosive charges that went off at noon today consisted of 2 kgs of TNT. The second charge was also stuffed with nails and shrapnel, which caused the death of three people — Ilham 'Atiyah, Shakib Dawud al-'Ali, and an unidentified woman.

Some 35 others were wounded by the second explosion. In the first, only two people were wounded.

'Free Youths' Claim Responsibility

NC122106 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] The Free Youths of Beirut Organization [munazzamat shabab bayrut al-hurr] claimed responsibility for the two explosions that occurred in West Beirut today. The organization issued a warning to the socialist Druze, and affirmed that the two explosions were targeted against two Druze areas.

The organization declared that further operations and more explosions will be targeted against Junblattist Druze interests in West Beirut until not a single Junblatt follower remains there.

Syria's AL-BA'TH Blames 'Arafat

NC130901 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Today's edition of the Damascus *AL-BA'TH* newspaper accuses Yasir 'Arafat's men of being directly or indirectly involved with Israel in responsibility for the car bombs in West Beirut.

The paper adds that the purpose is to undermine the successful results achieved to date by Lebanon's national government and to counter the Syrian initiative in Lebanon.

Gunmen Kill Two French Observers in West Beirut

NC140959 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Security sources have reported that two members of the French observers group were killed when one of their patrols was fired on by gunmen in the Burj al-Barajinah area at approximately 1100 today. The two bodies were taken to Al-Sahil Hospital.

Lahd Speech on Haddad Death Anniversary

JN131511 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1120 GMT 13 Jan 85

["Text" of speech by Staff Major General Antoine Lahd, commander of the army of southern Lebanon, on the first anniversary of Sa'd Haddad's death; date, place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] Representatives of the friendly State of Israel, esteemed audience;

Lebanon has been destined throughout its ancient and modern history to face dilemmas that nearly swept away its entity. It has also been destined that its officials would be negligent in the face of impending dangers due to their lack of leadership qualities. Thus, the responsibility of defending the homeland was shouldered by heroes who were imposed by the people to embody the Lebanese cause and resistance.

The hero Major Sa'd Haddad was one of Lebanon's faithful sons. Few are like him. He was Lebanese before anything else. He loved Lebanon, worked for it, and sacrificed for it until he became entrenched in the conscience of every Lebanese. He was a brave leader who hated injustice and disgrace and became an example in meeting grave responsibilities during the darkest hours. Before anyone else, he realized the importance of allying and cooperating with our Israeli neighbors to preserve southern Lebanon against evil attempts to usurp it.

On this occasion and out of my position of responsibility, I must explain the following: The south is a trust in the hands of the commander and elements of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL]. They protect its territory and defend the dignity of its sons to keep it Lebanese with all their might. Coexistence between the Lebanese sects in it is a marvellous example. This area is the best Lebanese area for preserving the true nature that stems from Lebanon's noble heritage.

Security in the south is well established among all people and sects. The citizens can move freely at any time and go anywhere without fearing attacks or prohibited areas. This state of affairs is a natural result of brotherly coexistence that prevails in the

south and which expresses the noble Lebanese tradition. We wish that this would apply to other Lebanese areas.

As for the aggressive attacks against the ASL and the Israeli Defense Forces, everyone knows that those who carry out these acts are a few misguided elements who receive their instructions from outside the south and are implementing external designs to maintain a tense situation in Lebanon. Moreover, they are implementing internal designs aimed at extending the zone of influence of those who undermined the coexistence formula in various Lebanese areas. These operations will not contribute to liberating the south as others claim. The converse is true, because the repetition of these terrorist acts, as a result of which many innocent people have died, are perhaps the reason that delayed the IDF's withdrawal and prompted further security precautions to prevent infiltration of hirelings, weapons, explosives, and booby-trapped cars into the south. This has adversely affected the movement of citizens and the exchange of products between the south and the various Lebanese areas. Since these security measures were originally adopted to protect and not harass the citizen, and out of our conviction of the inevitability of maintaining an indivisible part of Lebanon, we opened Batir Jazzin and [words indistinct] crossing points to secure land transport. We also endeavored to guarantee sea transport through the port of Sidon and we will open the port of Tyre for the same purpose very soon.

What do we see in the capital, mountain, and various Lebanese areas? A government called a national unity government, whose members are too weak to agree on the simplest issues; political conjecture characterized by moodiness and ambiguity; personal disputes and conflicting interests settled at the expense of citizens without any consideration for the supreme national interest. We see a mute discussion among ministers, each of whom appointed himself as the guardian of his sect to foster his own interests on the pretext of this sect's interest and at the expense of the homeland, a lack of security, and daily shelling and sniping that claims the lives of scores of innocent citizens seeking to survive. We see an economy that is about to collapse in the absence of security. The Lebanese pound has lost nearly all its value against foreign currencies because the people have lost the hope of achieving security that preserves the country's sovereignty and revives its economy. We see flagrant interference by non-Lebanese sides in running the country's affairs. Governments are formed while fateful decisions are made and wardens and post office workers are appointed from outside the country.

All this takes place under the slogan of preserving Lebanon and defending its sovereignty and independence. These ringing slogans have become like opium given to the people to distract their attention while influential people and so-called functionaries capitalize on the people's potentials and destiny. All this takes place under the slogan of liberating the south from the Israeli occupation.

This is not accurate. What is accurate is that those who sound these slogans are concerned about how to distribute shares among themselves if the IDF withdraws from the south. Each side is planning to acquire the largest possible geographic area regardless of the homeland's interests as a whole, and those of the south and the citizens in the south in particular. The deployment of the Lebanese Army on the coastal road between Beirut and the Al-Awwali River, according to the official authority's plan, is a trap aimed at dealing a new blow to the Army. I hope the Lebanese Government will not involve the Army in difficult and fateful tasks before reaching an agreement among the disputing political parties. I also hope that this establishment will not be exposed to the problems of polarization and fragmentation because it consists of military men who enjoy lofty military and national characteristics.

Regarding the course of the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations, the Lebanese negotiator's position shows the Lebanese Army as if it is the party that occupies Israeli territory. This negotiator ignores the presence of the IDF on Lebanese territory. This position has been explained in the statements of the Lebanese prime minister and the Lebanese foreign minister, who blurted out the three no's — no to the ASL, no to Israel's participation in distributing the UN emergency forces, and no to the deployment of the UN emergency forces north of the Al-Litani. They also say preconditions. We say that if this is what they demand, there is no need to negotiate.

I assure the prime minister that the ASL is a Lebanse army and does not need a lesson in patriotism from anyone. This army is also concerned about Lebanon's interests. As a result of this army's honesty, the Lebanese flag is still fluttering over the south. This army is a military force that assists in facilitating the IDF's withdrawal, and not in keeping it in the south. This does not pose any threat to Lebanon's entity and territory. The great danger, O Prime Minister, lies in importing ideas from outside Lebanon to apply them in the interest of the friends and at the expense of Lebanese interests. There is no logic in the Lebanese negotiator's position on the UN emergency forces' role and their deployment in the south.

I call on the Lebanese Government to be aware of Lebanon's interests in general, and those of the south in particular, and to exploit the regional and international circumstances by continuing the negotiations and by agreeing on the deployment of the UN emergency forces from the Al-Awwali River in the north to the international borders in the south. These forces should be provided with the necessary weapons to enable them to assume a deterring task that the current UN forces in the south do not enjoy. This new UN force should also be backed by an efficient Lebanese force.

Unless an agreement is reached, there will be a difficult and bad situation in the south that will increase the sufferings of the southern citizens. The government should avoid such a situation. Regrettably, the state of affairs has reached such a bad point as a result of the officials' lack of a clear vision and determination to take decisions. The great deceased hoped for the opposite. As we are commemorating him, we acknowledge his leading role and we pledge that we will complete the march. We will exert every effort to keep the south Lebanese and preserve Lebanon's sovereignty, freedom, and independence. This is our promise and we ask the Almighty God to help us complete his march and preserve the Lebanese nation's honor and dignity.

Reportage on Visit by Iranian Official

Hoseyn ol-Eslam Arrives

JN112047 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Iranian Assistant Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam arrived in Damascus this evening on a visit that will last several days. In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Sheykh ol-Eslam said that his visit to Syria is within the framework of coordination and consultation between the two friendly countries to promote friendly relations between Syria and Iran and to confront imperialist plans in the region.

He added that he carries sincere greetings to President Hafiz al-Asad from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i and a message to Faruq al-Shar' from the Iranian foreign minister on the region's situation. Concluding his statement, he wished the Syrian people progress and prosperity in all fields.

Confers With 'Isam al-Na'ib

JN121520 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1450 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, 12 Jan (SANA) — Assistant Foreign Minister 'Isam al-Na'ib held talks here today with Iranian Assistant Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam and his delegation on new political developments in the region and bilateral relations and ways to promote them.

This came during Al-Na'ib's reception of Sheykh ol-Eslam and his delegation here today. They also discussed the current international situation and stressed the importance of continued coordination between Syria and Iran to confront the expansionist Zionist and imperialist plans in the region.

Received by Foreign Minister

JN121800 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Iranian Assistant Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam and his delegation this afternoon. Assistant Foreign Minister 'Isam al-Na'ib and Iranian Ambassador 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi attended the meeting.

The minister received a message from Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati. The talks dealt with the current political situation in the region and bilateral relations.

Meets Vice President Khaddam

JN130727 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Iranian Assistant Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh Ol-Islam yesterday evening.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Foreign Minister 'Isam al-Na'ib, the Iranian ambassador in Damascus, and the delegation accompanying the Iranian guest. Talks dealt with the current situation in the region.

Ba'th Party Congress Discusses Economic Report

JN141224 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus — The Eighth Ba'th Party Regional Congress resumed work at 1000 today. The comrade members continued discussion and approval of all the recommendations pertaining to the economic reports which were submitted by the party Central Committee.

Ba'th Party Official on Ties With Afghanistan

JN141234 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Moscow — Comrade Muhammad 'Abd al-'Al, member of the Palestinian regional leadership in the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, has affirmed that Syria occupies a prominent place in the sphere of solidarity between revolutionary forces and world liberation movements. Speaking to the SANA correspondent in Moscow after heading the party's delegation to the celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Comrade 'Abd al-'Al said that Afghan President Babrak Karmal expressed special interest in the position adopted by the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its secretary general, President Hafiz al-Asad, toward Arab and international issues.

Comrade 'Abd al-'Al quoted President Babrak Karmal as saying: I highly appreciate Syria's stand under the leadership of prominent Arab leader and struggler Hafiz al-Asad. He said that Babrak Karmal affirmed that Afghanistan and the Arabs are bound by historical ties in the intellectual, cultural, and educational fields.

AL-BA'TH Blames 'Arafat for Beirut Explosions

JN130957 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 13 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Lebanese Determination To Achieve Salvation and Liberation March," *AL-BA'TH* says: We wonder about the meaning of the explosions that took place in West Beirut and the mountain against innocent people. We wonder what their planners want?

It has been irrefutably proved that these explosions came after the series of victories that were achieved in the interest of a unified Lebanon — territory and people. It is no secret that these explosions also came in the wake of all the Lebanese parties agreeing to begin implementing the security plans, one after the other, until complete legitimacy returns to Lebanon.

Therefore, the explosions must have been carried out by external elements. Reports so far point to an association, direct or indirect, between 'Arafat's clique and Israel in this regard. Immediately after the start of the Al-Naqurah military negotiations, Lebanese sources asserted that groups of the Zionist intelligence, Mosad, had infiltrated into Beirut. During 'Arafat's divisionist council meeting in Amman, official Lebanese sources said that 'Arafat, through his agents in certain areas in Lebanon, was working to spread the spirit of defeat and desperation and, consequently, to explode the security situation. This will serve the scheme of the Arab reactionary axis that works to hold direct negotiations with the Zionist enemy to complete the Camp David conspiracy; namely, to implement the autonomy plot in the West Bank and Gaza Strip that Al-Sadat and, later, Mubarak failed to implement.

Thus, we find that Israel, 'Arafat, and the Arab reactionary axis are working together within a scheme that has the same targets and objectives, which not only aims at destroying the security achievements the Lebanese national unity government has scored in the interest of Lebanon's unity — territory and people — but also aims at obstructing the Syrian moves that proved to both enemies and friends to be the best moves for facing all possibilities and foiling all enemy plots.

AL-BA'TH concludes by saying: Anyhow, Israel and its agents may be able to carry out some explosions here and there, against innocent people and civilians, but a constant factor is that the enemies of the fraternal country are not able to bring back the situation to what it was before the establishment of the Lebanese national unity government. Syria, which considers Lebanon's cause its own cause, as is the case with the Palestine question, will continue to provide complete and necessary support to complete the salvation march, achieve complete national accord, and liberate the territories from the Israeli invaders.

AL-THAWRAH Criticizes Call for Solidarity

JN141107 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0740 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, 14 Jan (SANA) — The newspaper *AL-THAWRAH* says today that the reactionary Arab axis' slogan of Arab solidarity is just a facade hiding the aims of defeatism and surrender and of conceding the Palestinian cause. The paper adds that the Arab masses demand and want an Arab solidarity of struggle that is hostile to imperialism and Zionism.

In its editorial today, *AL-THAWRAH* says: The attempts of the capitulationists and their new moves, represented by the practices of the Jordanian regime and the deviationist 'Arafat clique and their cooperation with the Camp David regime in Egypt under U.S. auspices, are a new link in the plot because solidarity with Egypt and its people cannot be based on Camp David. This solidarity can be established with the Egypt of history and Arab cohesion that is free of the Camp David chains.

The paper says, in conclusion, that the Arab masses, which distinguish between solidarity that is aimed at victory and liberation and solidarity that is intended for defeatism and capitulation, can differentiate between good and bad. They will continue to reject and resist attempts at making Arab solidarity a cover for capitulation and liquidation.

Israeli Withdrawal 'Question of Time and Patience'

JN121435 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Israeli Cabinet is currently preoccupied with holding extraordinary and limited meetings to discuss withdrawal, nonwithdrawal, partial withdrawal, or immediate or phased withdrawal from Lebanon. Yesterday the Cabinet heard War Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's views on plans to carry out a partial withdrawal and plans to redeploy the Israeli forces in Lebanon.

Israeli Government circles will release many such reports, especially since the Israeli side suspended its attendance of the Lebanese-Israeli military meetings in Al-Naqurah to discuss the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory.

There is no doubt that the problem of the withdrawal from Lebanon is an urgent one to Israel's rulers for many reasons, foremost of which are:

First, the failure of the United States and Israel to achieve their objectives from the invasion of Lebanon; second, Israel's military and political frustration in Lebanon, a fact that made it difficult for Israel to continue occupation and placed it in front of world public opinion, the United Nations, and a large sector of Israeli public opinion; third, the external pressures on the Israeli Government to make it withdraw from Lebanon; fourth, the increase of Israeli domestic crises, including economic and financial crises and the financial burdens created by the Israeli occupation — burdens that cannot be borne by Israel's economy and U.S. aid forever; fifth, the increase of Israeli human losses in Lebanon as a result of the expansion of the Lebanese national resistance and the diversity of its operations against Israeli invasion forces; sixth, the failure of the U.S. and Israeli concept on the possibility of using Lebanese complications as as a strong pressure card to force Syria to retreat from its positions that are hostile to the Camp David accords, Reagan's plan, and all the other projects and proposals aimed at implementing the U.S.-Israeli conditions for a settlement in the region; seventh, the fact that the Israeli military presence in Lebanon no longer represents a military danger or threat to Syria following developments in Syria's defensive capabilities as a result of the Syrian Armed Forces' battles against the Israeli invasion forces in Lebanon in 1982.

The problem of the withdrawal is so urgent to Israel's rulers that they cannot avoid it. They will be forced to withdraw from Lebanon regardless of their intransigence, tricks, and maneuvers. Local, Israeli, regional, and international as well as political, economic, and military facts assert that the Israeli withdrawal is a question of time and patience more than it is a question of principle.

The Israeli rulers, who maneuvered in Al-Naqurah by suspending the military negotiations, are launching psychological warfare against Lebanon through their statements, meetings, and

projects in a desperate attempt to extort any price from Lebanon for their inevitable withdrawal. They also exercise pressure, level threats, and engage in maneuvers in order to blackmail Lebanon and achieve part or all of the terms of the abrogated 17 May agreement that will harm Lebanon's sovereignty and independence.

It is impossible for Israel to harm Lebanon's independence and sovereignty or occupy part of Lebanon's territory through negotiations or through psychological warfare after the failure of the military invasion. Lebanon's position is strong and is becoming even stronger with the increase of the Lebanese armed national resistance against the occupiers and as a result of Syria's firm support, Arab and international support, UN resolutions, and the exacerbating financial, economic, political, and psychological crises in Israel. Lebanon's position also becomes stronger as a result of the success of the Lebanese national accord in implementing the plan to deploy the Lebanese Army on the coastal road and the other security plans and agreements that have been achieved by the parties to the Lebanese accord.

Shamir on U.S. Aid, Lebanon, Unity Government
TA111152 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 11 Jan 85 Weekend Supplement pp 4, 5, 27

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Amnon Barzilay in the vice prime minister's office in Jerusalem; date not given]

[Excerpt] Barzilay: You have recently met with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. Do you believe the United States will agree to increase its economic aid to Israel?

Shamir: I hope so. The United States is prepared to do so, but it wants to be sure that the increased aid will lead to an economic recovery. Shultz himself is an economist and, out of friendly interests, wants to know how the Israeli economy is faring. It was he who said that the Israeli economy is a U.S. interest. The United States would like to see Israel economically strong and sound. Furthermore, Shultz wants to make sure that the money the United States is investing will go toward a sound investment, in the right direction. The United States has heard people in Israel — even economists — say it should not give Israel the money. This is how their deep desire to take the necessary steps is being stifled. They listen to and heed this advice.

Barzilay: Won't the opposition to the stationing of VOA transmitters here affect the aid?

Shamir: The two issues are unrelated. The problem of the transmitters is not a new issue. For years we have had deliberations on the matter, and the United States is fully aware of our hesitations. I do not see it as a serious problem. Our relations with the United States have reached a high level of cooperation in all spheres. The United States wants us to comply, and I do not think we should act any differently.

Barzilay: In other words, we should allow the transmitters to be placed here?

Shamir: We should find a way to comply with their request.

Barzilay: Are you not afraid that this might harm relations with the Soviet Union?

Shamir: Has anything hampered the resumption of relations to date, aside from the Soviets' firm resolve not to do so?

Barzilay: What about the withdrawal from Lebanon? Can you envision an arrangement somewhere in the offing?

Shamir: To date, their position has not been positive. It is necessary to find a solution to the two components of the problem, as expressed in the basic guidelines of the government — security arrangements, and the withdrawal of the IDF from Lebanon.

Barzilay: In other words, no withdrawal without arrangements?

Shamir: No withdrawal. That is understood from the basic guidelines.

Barzilay: Is there a possibility that we will remain there for an indefinite period of time?

Shamir: I, for one, do not know how to set limits to it. I hope we will be able to pull the IDF out of Lebanon in the near future, and ways to do so should be sought. However, to reach that point, it requires an understanding by the other party that without security arrangements, the IDF will not be able to withdraw.

Barzilay: Even if it takes years?

Shamir: Even so. That is why I hope those who are interested in seeing us withdraw will change their position and be more amenable to arrangements that will allow us to withdraw.

Barzilay: Yet our soldiers are continuously being attacked.

Shamir: This is terrible, and we grieve for every soldier who is hit, and for his family. Yet this is part of the reality in which we are living, part of the regional scene. We live here, and we live with these phenomena — Palestinian terrorism and the complex Lebanese situation. They should be combatted, but not by fleeing.

Barzilay: Is a withdrawal from Lebanon a flight?

Shamir: Withdrawal without any security arrangements will be tantamount to just that, and will be like forsaking the Galilee. We must grant the inhabitants of the Galilee panhandle the kind of security to which they are entitled.

Barzilay: Some people believe that Peres is trying to embark on far-reaching policies, and that you are not too enthusiastic about these initiatives.

Shamir: I believe the Cabinet should faithfully adhere to the agreement that lies at the foundation of its establishment. We differ on some things, which is why we established joint operational guidelines, and I think the Cabinet should adhere to them very closely. No one can force his opinion on the other. I do not think the Cabinet ought to deal with initiatives that are not acceptable to both the Likud and the Alignment.

Barzilay: Has a new situation been created in terms of Israeli-Arab relations, such as Husayn and the Palestinians' readiness to conduct peace negotiations by way of direct talks with Israel?

Shamir: We discussed this during the negotiations preceding the establishment of the government. In such a case, we will listen to the proposals, and the Cabinet will decide how to react. If there are substantial differences of opinion and it is impossible to reach a consensus, the two sides will decide on their course, and the time to end the joint activity will come.

Barzilay: Can you see this coming?

Shamir: In theory, certainly.

Barzilay: And in reality?

Shamir: I do not. We did not think cooperation was impossible, and therefore we thought there were grounds to set up the unity government.

Shamir On Security Arrangements

TA112031 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by unidentified anchorman "this afternoon" in Jerusalem — videotaped]

[Excerpt] [Unidentified anchorman] Mr Shamir, there were detailed reports today that a majority is emerging in the Cabinet for a unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon in phases over the next 6 months. Do you support this?

[Shamir] I cannot say anything yet about the discussions in the Cabinet on this issue. There are discussions being held and there will be more discussions; my position is to support what is said in this government's guidelines, the guidelines of the national unity government. On Lebanon the guidelines say: The government will do what is required to guarantee the Galilee's safety. Security arrangements will be determined to enable the IDF to be withdrawn from Lebanon, and so on.

This means — maybe there is no need to explain at all — that there will be no withdrawal of the IDF from Lebanon without security arrangements to safeguard the Galilee. I insist on this.

[Anchorman] Yes, but there is something concrete going on. The entire Cabinet is scheduled to discuss it on Sunday, after the inner Cabinet has already discussed it.

[Shamir] That is my position.

[Anchorman] That is, if a proposal is raised — as apparently it will be raised — to withdraw within 6 months, in phases, will this be acceptable to you?

[Shamir] If the proposal is in accordance with what I said, in accordance with what is written in the government's guidelines, which were agreed to, I will support it. If it is not in accordance with this, I will oppose it.

[Anchorman] From your viewpoint, what is the minimum needed to guarantee safety for the Galilee?

[Shamir] Guidelines that will not permit terrorist attacks against the Galilee from Lebanese soil.

[Anchorman] What does this mean in practical terms? Does it mean staying there for years?

[Shamir] It does not mean staying there for years. I can give you an example. Look at the agreement we made in May 1983 which was later abrogated. The security arrangements stipulated were based on cooperation between the IDF and a Lebanese Army territorial brigade to prevent terrorists returning to the border. We must set security arrangements that will prevent terrorists from returning to the border and harming the inhabitants of the Galilee.

[Anchorman] Some people say that the key to this matter is actually in the Syrians' hands. I have heard ministers say that it is easier to convince the Likud ministers to withdraw under the pressure of an economic or other pretext from Lebanon, than to submit to the Syrians — or to be more precise to the Americans — some sort of map and thus, in fact, begin negotiations with the Syrians. Is this so?

[Shamir] This is nonsense. Excuse me. It is very simple. There is a certain situation in Lebanon; there is a certain situation near the border. It is crystal clear that as soon as we leave, the terrorists will return to the border. This must be prevented, whether through cooperation between us and another force, or by leaving an IDF force in the area until there is an agreement. We must not, of our own free will, by our own decision, abandon the Galilee's security.

[Anchorman] From what you are saying, summing it up, I have not actually found the main point, what is it that will both permit the force to leave and safeguard that security you are speaking of?

[Shamir] I just said it. If there are security arrangements that prevent the return of terrorists to the border, the IDF can be withdrawn.

[Anchorman] But the security arrangements ... [anchorman changes thought] The Al-Naqurah talks have failed; there is no one to talk to in Lebanon, and we are not speaking to the Syrians.

[Shamir] So unilateral security arrangements can be determined until there is someone with whom we can come to an agreement.

[Anchorman] Meaning remaining there?

[Shamir] To a certain extent, yes, that will guarantee the safety of the Galilee until the Syrians and Lebanese understand that if they want Israel's withdrawal, they must come to an agreement with it on security arrangements. To this day, the situation has not been like that.

[Anchorman] And if it takes years?

[Shamir] If it takes years, then that is our fate; we must defend the citizens of Israel. I am sure it will not take years.

Rabin on IDF Withdrawal, Syrian Reaction

TA121136 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 12 Jan 85

["Weekly Newsreel" interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Tal] Mr Rabin, you received the defense portfolio on the ticket [last word in English] of withdrawing the IDF from Lebanon, among other things. Will you meet this challenge?

[Rabin] I undertook the defense portfolio fully aware of the general Israeli defense problems and the specific problem of our involvement in Lebanon. The present government set a single objective in its policy, a single objective with two aspects — first, guaranteeing the safety of the northern Israeli settlements, and second, returning the IDF home. This is the objective which I am actively pursuing. The problem we are facing is how to guarantee maximum security for the northern settlements without the IDF becoming a target for terrorist acts by an element which had not even been considered as hostile at the beginning of the Lebanese war — the Shi'ite community in southern Lebanon.

There were two possible ways to achieve the goal. The first is a political-military road, the reaching of an agreement with the elements concerned — Lebanon, for one. However, Lebanon is not an independent country; it has no government which can make independent decisions; its government is under the influence of the Syrians. As a result, the second element here is the Syrians. The third element is the United Nations, whose forces should have constituted a significant component in the security arrangements which would guarantee the safety of the Galilee and enable the IDF to return home.

The political road, as tried by the government upon my recommendation, has been exhausted. The Lebanese and Syrian stands today demand that the IDF withdraw without guaranteeing reasonable security arrangements. Hence the second alternative, that we ourselves will determine the security arrangements which will make the IDF return home possible. This is the main issue on which the Cabinet must decide. I believe that if the Israeli Government adopts a decision, the decision the defense establishment has recommended to the government, the conditions will be created for a dialogue, albeit limited, which will prevent the creation of total chaos in the area which the IDF will evacuate in southern Lebanon.

[Tal] Mr Rabin, are you pleased with the contacts among the various components of the government in preparation for an agreed formula on a settlement in Lebanon?

[Rabin] I believe that the Cabinet discussion, as was the case in those forums where the matter was discussed before, will be matter-of-fact and will not necessarily reflect party positions. I believe this has a chance. The government is facing a difficult problem because there are no ideal solutions to the situation in Lebanon. There is no panacea which can be proposed so as to obtain maximum security in addition to the IDF's withdrawal. We should find something which bridges the two. Hence, I believe and hope that the discussion will be practical and to the point, and devoid of historical positions. The problem we are facing is how to deal with the situation as it is today, and not consider solutions to what might have been had we done this or that at the time.

[Tal] Do you believe that the defense establishment's stance will finally be accepted?

[Rabin] I hope and believe that the proposals we brought up and will bring up in the Cabinet this coming Sunday are the best proposals for bridging the need for security and a maximum withdrawal of the IDF. I believe these proposals will be accepted.

[Tal] Mr Rabin, at the beginning of the week the UN under secretary general will arrive, with proposals, as expected. If he indeed brings new Lebanese proposals, will you recommend that the military delegation return to Al-Naqurah?

[Rabin] I believe that at any event we should have at least one more meeting in Al-Naqurah. We undertook to give the Israeli Government's answer to the proposals which were submitted by the Lebanese upon the resumption of the talks after the Christmas holiday. At the same time, if the UN under secretary general comes with completely new proposals, not those presented to us by the Lebanese, there will be room to examine them, as well.

[Tal] Now, there is much talk about UNIFIL, whereas until quite recently UNIFIL had probably been the body most slandered by the IDF. It had been said that UNIFIL cooperated with the terrorists, and a thick file had been prepared in the Defense Ministry's National Security Unit, recording and documenting such cooperation. What far-reaching changes have taken place in the meantime to suddenly make UNIFIL such a key body in the security arrangements with Lebanon?

[Rabin] I have never been impressed with UNIFIL as an effective military body for combatting terrorism. However, the problems are relative. When the question arises as to whether UNIFIL — and let me emphasize, not only UNIFIL, but UNIFIL together with local, friendly Lebanese forces — constitutes a sufficient guarantee for reasonable security for the northern settlements, as a substitute for a permanent IDF presence in southern Lebanon, I would gladly adopt this solution which combines UNIFIL and friendly Lebanese forces instead of a continued IDF presence. To my regret, however, this possibility does not exist today.

[Tal] What are the advantages and disadvantages of another line, of an interim line, perhaps?

[Rabin] I did not, nor do I, recommend an interim line at this stage. The proposal which will be brought up will combine a number of elements. It will be implemented in phases, while the changes that will take place in the area at every stage are studied. The main tendency will be to redeploy the IDF first and foremost on Israel's territory, and to rely on a security strip in southern Lebanon under the control of friendly forces. This will allow for a situation of reasonable security and the return of the IDF home. This move will be carried out in stages, constantly subject to review and the reading of the map of the developments in those areas which we will evacuate, and reserving of the right to decide to change matters if it indeed transpires that matters are developing in a significantly different manner than we expect. We will accept no barrier as to where, when, or how to act with our military power. We will do everything we can to prevent a return to the status quo ante — we will not allow any terrorist element, PLO or any other, to organize in southern Lebanon. What occurred in the past will not recur.

[Tal] What will happen on the eastern front?

[Rabin] I do not want to go into details here. I do not believe the Syrians will move large forces southward if we evacuate the eastern front. Therefore, all of that area which terrorists may

enter, God forbid, will be devoid of a Syrian presence. As a result, the Israeli freedom of action will be larger. Naturally, vis-a-vis the eastern front, in addition to the problem of terrorists, we should also consider the need to face a possible Syrian threat. Our proposal takes all of the above into consideration.

[Tal] What do the Syrians intend to do, in view of Al-Asad's remarks, for example?

[Rabin] I cannot speak on behalf of the Syrians. In my view, Syria will face a problem if our proposal is indeed accepted [by the Cabinet]. I believe that ultimately, the Syrians too, will not be eager to continue to maintain their enormous forces in Lebanon. I do not expect the Syrians to leave Lebanon. They have made political gains in Lebanon, and their military presence there is necessary to maintain them. Nevertheless, I believe they will reduce the number of their military forces there and withdraw some of them to Syria. We had better wait and see, though. Thus, according to our proposal, we intend to carry things out in stages so as to prevent the emergence of an unforeseen situation, and to maintain the ability to provide an appropriate answer to it.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1000 GMT on 12 January summarizes Yitzhaq Rabin's above remarks on Syrian intentions in Lebanon as follows: "Rabin said that a unilateral Israeli decision to change the deployment in Lebanon may lead the Syrians to have second thoughts about their policy. Today, he said, the Syrians do not care if the IDF does not withdraw from Lebanon."]

Minister Gur Opposes Unilateral Withdrawal

TA112057 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Interview with Health Minister Mordekhay Gur by unidentified correspondents; "this afternoon" in Jerusalem — videotaped]

[Excerpt] [Question] As for the decision emerging to unilaterally withdraw from Lebanon in phases over 6 months, in the past you expressed opposition to this and said the objective, in fact, should be to talk with the Syrians. Is this still your position?

[Gur] I have no doubt that if there is one objective we must achieve to end our involvement in Lebanon, it is to reach an understanding, even if it is not a formal one, with the Syrians. Only Syria can guarantee that the terrorists will not move southward. None of the rest interests me. The army of southern Lebanon [ASL] is important, but not very important. The deployment of UNIFIL forces is important, but it is not a principle over which there need be negotiations. The Lebanese Army exists, but it is not an army. What interests me is the security of the settlements in the north and that is all. For this we must guarantee that terrorists will not move southward, and that can be done either by the IDF or the Syrians. I do not want us to remain in Lebanon and so I will support any Cabinet decision for a withdrawal. That was also the Alignment's position before the election, as well as my own personal position. To this day I believe that if we, the Government of Israel, submit a comprehensive, genuine proposal, we will be able to achieve an understanding within a very short time and get out of there.

[Question] Sir, even if the Syrians do negotiate with us, have we already formulated a decision to unilaterally withdraw from Lebanon, can you...

[Gur, interrupting] I have not yet given my support to any decision for a unilateral withdrawal and, at the next Cabinet session too, when the matter is raised for debate... [Gur leaves thought incomplete] I do not know whether we will in fact make a decision on Sunday. The idea is to make a decision, but still give a reasonable amount of time for negotiations. Without that condition I would find it very difficult to support any decision whatsoever, because I am against a unilateral withdrawal; in my opinion, it would not be good. I think we should be courageous; we have the strength to submit a proposal of this type. Negotiations that will end well...

[Question, interrupting] When you say, to submit a proposal, what exactly do you mean?

[Gur] For instance, after the Yom Kippur War, we proposed a map to the United States for a disengagement of forces, a very courageous map which included a comprehensive withdrawal by us to beyond the canal. Without that, Kissinger could not have done anything.

[Question] But the Syrians are not coming to negotiations.

[Gur] To this day, our proposals have laid down red lines for the ASL and for UNIFIL; these are worthless matters when our primary need is to prevent the terrorists' return, something only the Syrians can do. Because I do not want to remain in Lebanon, I need to propose... [Gur changes thought] As in the disengagement of forces in 1974, as in the interim agreement, as in the withdrawal from the Sinai, it was all proposed before Al-Sadat arrived. We must submit a comprehensive program. I will fight for this in the Cabinet.

[Question] On Sunday, when the issue is discussed, will you give more support, let us say, to such positions as those held by Shamir, Arens, and others?

[Gur] Without naming names, there are ministers and there are others who claim to favor a withdrawal; in fact, however, they are resigned to staying in Lebanon for many years. I will not support such a thing because, in my opinion, we must get out of there and we can get out of there rapidly. I will support any decision favoring a withdrawal. I will insist that the withdrawal be accompanied by an agreement; it should not be unilateral.

Likud Faction Leader Calls for Meeting on Pullout

TA131206 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1157 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] The head of the Likud's Knesset faction, Knesset Member Hayim Kaufman is convening the Likud faction, including its ministers, tomorrow evening for a discussion of the withdrawal from Lebanon.

Until then, Kaufman demands that the Likud's representatives in the Cabinet make no decision on this issue. Our correspondent

notes that Kaufman's decision followed firm demands by Likud faction members that a discussion precede any decision on withdrawal.

IDF Redeployment in Southern Lebanon Viewed

'Possible Scenarios' for Withdrawal

TA131937 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] If the decision to withdraw from Lebanon in stages is adopted, where will the first line be? Reporter Tony Gadot has been talking to military experts about this:

[Gadot — live] A possible scenario for an IDF redeployment in southern Lebanon, according to some military experts, will be a withdrawal to what has been called the Katyusha line. Deployment along this line — 20-30 km north of Israel's northern border with Lebanon — will reduce the IDF presence in the area, while keeping the northern settlements out of range of Katyusha rocket fire. This line, between the Al-Zahrani and Al-Litani Rivers, would be held for between 9 months to 1 year, until conditions on the ground become suitable for a further withdrawal to this side of the border.

The first stage in the redeployment would cut across the South Lebanon's Shi'ite population and, to prevent increased terrorist action in the areas evacuated, Israel will probably encourage an extended deployment of the army of southern Lebanon and local militia. The IDF would retain the option of freedom of movement in the area to prevent terrorist attacks and the consolidation of a new terrorist infrastructure. A role for the UN force in Lebanon is not envisaged and UNIFIL could become defunct, unless the Lebanese Government requests its aid to help prevent factional infighting after the IDF withdrawal.

Recently, the chief of general staff, Lieutenant General Moshe Levi, told the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that several alternative plans have been drawn up for a military redeployment. There is also the possibility that the Lebanese Government will alter its policy toward a negotiated withdrawal, but if so, it will have to present its plans on Thursday at the latest, when the next — and possibly final — round of talks takes place at Al-Naqurah.

'No Rash Exit'

TA140544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Senior IDF sources emphasized that logistical considerations will be the determining factor in setting the timetable of the IDF withdrawal from Lebanon, after the Cabinet decides on the issue. They also said there will be no rash exit, as was the case in the Al-Shuf region over a year ago.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that in the first phase, the Sidon area will be evacuated, and developments there will determine the pace of the subsequent phases. The defense establishment is taking into consideration the fact that a race will be on between the various factions and the terrorist organizations for control of the area to be evacuated by the IDF. A particularly fierce struggle is expected over the Sidor port and other strategic areas around the town.

Possible Timetable Reported

TA140707 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 14 Jan 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by military correspondent Hirsh Goodman]

[Text] Israel's withdrawal from the northwest sector of southern Lebanon — if approved by the Cabinet as expected — will begin within the next two weeks. The withdrawal will be to a new line between the Al-Zahrani and Al-Litani Rivers, running between 15 and 21 kilometres north of the border.

Israel will be giving up control over 400,000 Shi'ites in this stage of [sentence incomplete as published]

In the second stage, scheduled for spring, Israel will withdraw from the Al-Biqa' valley, including Jabal al-Baruk.

By next autumn, the withdrawal should be complete, with only several hundred Israeli advisers — from the Israel Defence Forces — attached to Major General Antoine Lahd's South Lebanon Army [SLA].

The SLA, which will continue to be funded and trained by Israel, will assume all day-to-day policing duties in an area roughly the same as that held by the late Major Sa'd Haddad, but including Tyre on the Mediterranean coast and the Al-Nabatiyah plain in the central sector, both former PLO strongholds.

Israel will request that UNIFIL be expanded from its current complement of 6,100 to 10,000 and that, together with predominantly Shi'ite brigades of the Lebanese Army, it keep the peace between the Druze, Shi'ite, and Palestinian communities in the areas that Israel will vacate.

During the nine months that the three-stage withdrawal is expected to take, Israel will simultaneously pursue a diplomatic process to try to bring about either covert or open understandings with the Lebanese and Syrians to maintain stability in Lebanon.

The first stage should be carried out quickly. The IDF will probably blow up all defences that are not easily transportable — including the nine fortifications built in late 1983, when Israel withdrew from the Al-Shuf mountains to the current line on the Al-Awwali bridge, though in the first stage the crossing point at Batir al-Shuf will not be affected.

Cabinet Debates Resolution on Withdrawal From Lebanon

Session Ends Without Resolution

TA131344 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1341 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] The Cabinet session that debated the plan for a phased withdrawal from Lebanon ended without any resolution. The

Cabinet will continue to discuss the proposal presented to it by the defense minister and the heads of the defense establishment tomorrow afternoon. Our political correspondent reports that only some ministers had time to express their opinions in reaction to the proposal. Deputy Prime Minister David Levi supported the withdrawal plan, as did Minister 'Ezer Weizman. Minister Moshe Arens strongly opposed it, and argued that the plan is a gamble. Minister Yosef Burg said that in the current situation, perhaps it is necessary to reach a compromise, and proposed that for the moment the Cabinet approve only the first phase of the withdrawal. As we said before, the Cabinet will continue to debate the issue tomorrow afternoon.

Schiffer on Cabinet Division

TA131725 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer — live in the studio]

[Text] The time for decision, in preparation for the beginning of the end of the deep involvement with Lebanon, is drawing nearer, and the closer that moment comes and the more positions become pointed, the heavier the responsibility, and the more difficult the decision — at stake is both a political and a military decision. Some have called it the syndrome of the first katyusha that will fall, in other words, the great fear lest the opponents might some day come and say: We told you so.

Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin are prepared to take that risk, and have the IDF withdraw in stages, without setting a fixed timetable for the withdrawal from Lebanon. They are joined by all the Alignment ministers and 'Ezer Weizman, Yiga'el Hurvitz, and Amnon Rubinstein.

The situation in the Likud camp, however, is different. Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir strongly objects to the plan submitted by the defense establishment. Tomorrow he will explain his position at the Cabinet session that continues the debate of the issue. Shamir believes that the plan involves too many risks both for the northern settlements and the IDF. The IDF, he believes, will be stationed along a worse line, if it follows the plan proposed by the defense establishment. Sources associated with Yitzhaq Shamir told me this evening that he is motivated exclusively by security considerations.

Former Defense Minister Professor Moshe Arens also opposes the plan strongly, and thinks that it jeopardizes the northern settlements. Ari'el Sharon would like to postpone the vote until after he returns to Israel [from New York, where he is engaged in the final stages of his libel suit against *TIME* magazine]. Ministers Yitzhaq Moda'i and Moshe Nisim also oppose the plan, as it was submitted by the defense establishment. Minister Moshe Qatzav will propose tomorrow that a withdrawal be carried out to a new line, or what is known as the fourth alternative instead of the defense establishment's plans. Minster Qatzav will propose that the Cabinet reconsider its position after a reasonable period of time.

Deputy Prime Minister David Levi thinks otherwise, and differs with his fellow Likud partners. He favors the conception presented by the defense establishment, believing that even in the new reality that will be created in the area, the IDF will be able to guard the northern settlements. Minister Levi believes we have nothing more to do in those territories in Lebanon. Levi has been fastidious and consistent in this position of his, and thinks we should adopt the defense establishment's proposals based on opinions drawn up by qualified professionals.

Minister Yosef Burg will suggest that the Cabinet approve the first stage of the plan, which involves a withdrawal from the Sidon area, and reconsider the entire issue in every aspect and from every angle at a later date.

Finally, the situation this evening is that there will be a Cabinet majority supporting the defense establishment's proposals, and the IDF will immediately begin withdrawing from the Sidon area, with no further postponement. Despite the division that will be reflected in the ministers' vote, this will most probably not lead to a coalition crisis. After all, even Yitzhaq Shamir has said that this is not an ideological matter separating the Likud from the Alignment, but that this is a manifestation of different concepts on how to guarantee security for the northern settlements.

Schiffer on Levi Position

TA131750 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1725 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer — live in the studio]

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi finds himself in confrontation with his fellow colleagues from the Likud, and unequivocally differs with the position of Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir — who reportedly, his associates said this evening, is motivated solely by security considerations. Just a few moments ago, I heard details about Minister Levi's full stance, and I bring you the specifics:

Minister Levi believes the decision on the redeployment in, or withdrawal from, Lebanon should not be affected by any partisan affiliation, as in his view it is not an ideological or political issue. Minister Levi warns against an artifical division among the Cabinet members, between those who worry about the safety of the inhabitants of the Galilee and the others, who are less concerned about this. If that were the situation, Levi would not have remained in the present Cabinet even a minute more. All the ministers are responsible for the safety of the country and the well-being of its inhabitants. The matter is military in nature, and the position of the General Staff Command and the assessments made by the various security branches must constitute an important factor in the Cabinet's considerations. David Levi had supported the Peace for Galilee operation out of recognition of the need to destroy the PLO's infrastructure in Lebanon, which threatened the Galilee. As a result of that operation, the PLO's military power was crushed, and together with this, it also lost its political influence. The same recognition that was his guideline at the time, still guides David Levi now, and he

currently supports the proposal submitted by the General Staff Command and the security forces.

Minister Levi believes that a fixed interim line as a substitute for the present lines is a very dangerous alternative, and involves the danger of attrition under extremely difficult conditions, with the IDF sandwiched in between hostile Shi'ite populations both to the south and to the north of it.

The Cabinet's consideration of the matter should not be guided by a search for a compromise between the sects. Levi does not believe in the need for an arrangement at all costs. There is no one to reach an arrangement with in Lebanon, and even if we had reached an arrangement with the Lebanese, knowing the administration and the Lebanese Army, all would have amounted to nothing.

Will the Lebanese Army — Minister David Levi said this evening — guarantee the safety of our settlements? An arrangement with the United Nations will deprive us of essential components that constitute our security. By that he meant the army of southern Lebanon and the area of southern Lebanon. Insofar as security arrangements are concerned, only the IDF can be relied upon, and the proposal submitted by the security establishment includes all these elements.

Lastly, to his opponents, David Levi says: I would like to know what the alternative is. Will we continue to remain in Lebanon even when everyone is convinced that no change whatsoever will occur there in the foreseeable future? How long will we remain? Will it be a matter of years, or will it be a permanent stay? Is that the alternative? Or will we sit back and wait? Or should we perhaps change the rules of the game?

The IDF is unique in its freedom of maneuverability, dictating the initiative and the moves in the terrain. Minister Levi believes that at the present the IDF is confined and is reacting to an increasing incidence of terrorist attack attempts. Our continued stay among the Shi'ite population serves the Syrian strategy, whose aim is to weaken Israel without harming even one Syrian soldier. Therefore, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi will vote in favor of the defense establishment's plan, contrary to his colleagues both in Herut and the Liberal Party.

Peres Wants Nonpartisan Decision

TA140654 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Shim'on Peres said he is praying that the legitimate disagreements [on the IDF withdrawal plan] will not reflect partisan lines, since there must not be a partisan approach to security affairs. Our correspondent Hemi Bar-Yosef brings some of Peres' remarks, made in Jerusalem yesterday:

[Begin Peres recording] In the Cabinet meeting, we began to discuss ways of putting an end to our involvement in Lebanon, while guaranteeing the peace of the Galilee. We held a Cabinet meeting this morning which lasted more than 6 hours. It seems to me, and I am definitely praying for this, that the legitimate, serious differences of opinion will not be divided along partisan lines. There must not be a partisan approach or discipline on security matter; we are discussing a life-and-death issue here, one of the most serious issues on the agenda. I am very hopeful that the Cabinet's decision will be a pragmatic one. [end recording]

Compromise Proposal Suggested

TA141037 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Some of the Likud ministers believe the Cabinet should aspire toward adopting a unanimous [muskemet] decision on the Lebanese issue, due to the fateful importance involved. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that in today's Cabinet meeting, the justice minister will ask the Cabinet to approve an IDF withdrawal from the Sidon area within a few weeks — as proposed in the defense establishment's plan — but to refrain from deciding on the next stages.

This view, held by the justice minister, is also shared by Ministers Yosef Burg and Gid'on Pat. Minister Pat will vote in favor of the proposal submitted to the Cabinet [by the defense establishment yesterday], if a majority is not found for the above compromise proposal. The Cabinet is going to meet this afternoon.

UN To Propose Secret Talks With Lebanon

TA130634 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] UN Officials made it clear to Lebanon they will not agree to UNIFIL's deployment in the area evacuated by the IDF without a prior agreement between the Israeli and Lebanese Governments. The Lebanese wanted to initiate a unilateral move, but the UN officials explained that the basic principles acceptable to them is that of agreement between the sides.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht has nevertheless learned that the United Nations will propose secret contacts instead of the Al-Naqurah talks, so as to consolidate quick agreement to the deployment of UNIFIL in the areas which the IDF will evacuate in the Al-Awwali area.

Government To Consider Friendly Southern Lebanese

TA131302 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Uri Lubrani, the coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, said that the southern Lebanese residents' friendship will be taken into account in any arrangement the Israeli Government decides on. He represented the prime minister at the unveiling ceremony in Marj 'Uyun of a monument built by a sculptor from Nahalal in memory of Major Haddad on the occasion of the first anniversary of his death.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that General Antoine Lahd, Haddad's successor, called on the Lebanese Government to take advantage of the propitious international atmosphere and to work for a political arrangement to ensure quiet in Lebanon.

He said the Lebanese Army in the Al-Kharrub region is trapped, because without such an arrangement the Lebanese forces are bound to disintegrate.

Lebanese Christians Prepare for IDF Withdrawal

TA140557 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] The Christians in Jazzin, Sidon, and the strip of villages along the Al-Awwali River have already prepared an emergency plan to be implemented in the event of an IDF withdrawal. It was decided, among other things, that the residents will be armed, regular contacts will be maintained with the IDF and the army of southern Lebanon, traffic axes will be guarded, and Phalangist bases in the area will be reestablished. Nevertheless, the Christian leaders told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that hundreds of families already intend to leave the region — some for Beirut and others for the southern Lebanese area which will be under IDF aegis.

Christians Fearful of Future

TA140915 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] A strong fear about the future has been expressed by the Christian community in southern Lebanon. The Christians are afraid that members of other communities will harm them for those years of cooperation [with Israel], for the years they enjoyed a superior status vis-a-vis the other communities.

In a talk with our correspondent in the north, the Lebanese Christian leader Nizar Najarian [a member of the "Free Christian Parliament of South Lebanon"] said that only a strong continued Christian presence will keep the south free of terrorists and defend the Galilee settlements. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports:

[Begin recording] [Horowitz] The Christians in southern Lebanon are anxious. The Phalange leaders have recently met a number of times and decided on emergency plans for the Christian residents if and when the IDF withdraws from southern Lebanon. The Christian leaders say: Our fear is that radical factional elements will try to harm us.

In the coming weeks, additional Phalangists will apparently deploy in the areas densely populated by Christian residents. Nizar Najarian, the head of the interfactional coordinating committee in southern Lebanon, says that only a strong Christian presence in southern Lebanon will finally bring quiet to the Galilee settlements as well.

[Najarian — in English] The Christian people living in the area — we want to preserve a strong presence, we want to preserve a strong foundation for the Christian presence in the area, because we see in this presence a must for south Lebanon and for overall Lebanon. Also, with this presence, we think it will be much easier to give peace to the northern part of the Galilee.

[Horowitz] Najarian, who is one of the Lebanese Christian leaders, says that quiet has prevailed in the Al-Kharrub region ever since soldiers of the Lebanese Army and members of the gendarmerie have deployed along the Lebanese coastal road.

[Najarian — in English] The actual presence of the Lebanese Army, as I said, is a political presence, not a military presence. We have to look to the presence of this Army in the Iqlim al-Kharrub from this angle, and not from another angle.

[Horowitz] The presence of the Lebanese Army in Iqlim al-Kharrub is political and not military, Najarian says, adding: It is the Syrians who pressured the Beirut government to deploy its soldiers along the Lebanese coastal road. [end recording]

Egypt's Ghali Demands Peres Move Before Summit

TA131233 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 13 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by Paris-based correspondent Tamar Golan]

[Text] "The Egyptian Government is waiting for genuine moves by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres," Dr Butrus Ghali, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, told *MA'ARIV*.

Dr Ghali explained: "In 1984 we were all living in the shadow of elections — the presidential election in the United States, the elections in Israel and Egypt, and in the PNC. Therefore, all activities were shelved. Now the time has come to take initiatives. We are ready for action, and are asking for the help of all parties."

"Practically speaking," Dr Ghali said, "I do not think that a summit between Mubarak and Peres can take place before there is some movement on Israel's part."

According to Dr Ghali, Israel should take steps in the following areas: change the quality of life of the Palestinians in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip; implement the 1982 agreement on Tabah, which includes the stationing of the MFO in Tabah and international arbitration based on the agreement; and withdraw from Lebanon in the spirit of UN Resolutions 608 and 609.

Official Egyptian Visitor To Keep Low Profile

TA131239 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 13 Jan 85 p 8

[Report by Smadar Peri]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry is keeping a low profile during the official visit of an Egyptian guest who is due in Israel today. The guest, Fatma Ahmad Khayr al-Din, is head of the Department for the Promotion of Women in Egypt's agricultural area [not further specified].

The reason for keeping the low profile is that opposition papers usually strongly attack every Egyptain citizen who visits Israel, calling him a "collaborator." They also call for cutting any professional contacts with "collaborators."

The last visitor from Egypt, the painter Amal Shukri, met with a hostile media attack when she returned to Egypt. In Israel, she

was interviewed by the press and television at her own request. At that time she explained her special wish for normalization between the two countries. However, reacting to the sharp criticism, she published seven long articles in opposition organs, in which she announced, much to everyone's surprise: "The Israelis were our enemies, and they continue to be our enemies. I am cutting all my relations with Israel."

During her 1-week visit, Fatma al-Din will visit kibbutzim and settlements and will meet with women's organizations in the large cities.

U.S. Briefs Israel, Egypt on Dialogue With USSR

TA140619 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] The United States briefed both Israel and Egypt on its intention to renew the dialogue with the Soviet Union on the Middle East issue. Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Mark Palmer transmitted a message on this issue to Jerusalem, following the Shultz-Gromyko talks in Geneva. Our correspondent Razi Barqay notes that Israel had feared a dialogue between the two superpowers because of Moscow's desire to convene an international conference to discuss a settlement of the Middle East conflict.

Weizman To Conduct Political Missions For Peres

TA111156 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 11 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by Orly Azulay-Katz]

[Text] Minister 'Ezer Weizman will conduct political missions on behalf of the prime minister, according to an agreement reached between the two. Peres and Weizman have recently agreed to step up the latter's involvement in political missions, without infringing on the authority of Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Weizman will be acting on behalf of the Prime Minister's Office. It was decided that Weizman will join the prime minister in his upcoming visits to Italy and Romania.

Weizman subscribes to the prime minister's assessment that any sort of arrangement with Jordan will be attained only after an agreement has been reached with Syria and relations with Egypt have thawed. This is why Weizman will work in these two directions. Weizman has recently met frequently with the Egyptian charge d'affaires in Israel, Muhammad Basyuni.

Foreign Ministry Opposes Arrangement

TA131106 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 13 Jan 85 P 4

[Report by Pe'er-li Shahar]

[Text] "'Ezer Weizman will not deal with any issue which is under the authority of the Foreign Ministry," officials in Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's office said, reacting to news that Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has given Weizman the green light to engage in foreign policy affairs.

"'Ezer Weizman will not take any part in our contacts with Egypt or in any other matter which is under the Foreign Ministry's authority," one of Yitzhaq Shamir's confidants adds.

The *HADASHOT* correspondent reports that Shamir's determined stand causes some tension in the Prime Minister's Office, after Weizman has repeatedly expressed his dissatisfaction with the fact that he has not been given a chance to use his ideas and good relations to improve Israeli-Egyptian relations.

Referring to Weizman accompanying Shim'on Peres on his trip abroad, Shamir's confidants say: "It is a bit difficult to refer to this matter; what will Weizman's task be on these trips? Perhaps sword carrier?"

Parties to Economic Package Deal To Discuss Future

TA130552 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] The economists of the parties to the package deal will today begin discussing the various possibilities of continuing the deal, according to the discussions by the parties over the weekend. The finance minister, the Histadrut secretary, and the head of the employers' organization will meet again this week.

Our economic affairs correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that a comprehensive economic plan was discussed in the weekend's deliberations. An agreement is emerging on the Histadrut's proposal for a gradual increase in the price of basic commodities without considering the price increases in calculating the consumer price index and with regular compensation, which will have a favorable effect, particularly on the low-income sector.

The parties are also inclined to continue the package deal for a relatively long time, while agreeing to introduce amendments to it at short intervals. The parties believe an agreement can be reached soon.

Shinuy Members To Discuss Remaining in Government

TA121144 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Shinuy members, led by Knesset Member Virshubsky, demand that the party's bodies be convened to discuss Shinuy's continued participation in the government. Virshubsky explained to our correspondent Amnon Nadav that such a discussion is called for in view of three decisions by the Cabinet -- the decision to set up six settlements, the emerging decision on the Law of Return, and the decision [as heard] on a withdrawal from Lebanon in phases over an indefinite period of time.

KUNA: Maghreb Summit Faces 'Another Deadlock'

LD111651 Kuwait KUNA in English 1527 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Rabat, Jan 11 (KUNA) — The Tunisian-proposed Maghreb summit has apparently headed toward another deadlock with Libya setting the condition of approving an agenda including a form of political and economic unity among the five North African Arab countries. KUNA correspondent here was told by reliable sources that Libya is not enthusiastic at this particular stage to the convening of a summit for the Arab Maghreb states.

A number of proposals had called for finding a kind of merger between the Oujda Agreement signed on August 13 last year which stipulated the creation of a Moroccan-Libyan unity and the friendship and cooperation treaty signed by Tunisia, Algeria and Mauritania.

The rumors on a possible Maghreb summit were activated by the recent visit of two Moroccan officials to Algeria. The visit, by the Moroccan monarch's adviser Ahmed Reda Guedira and Interior Minister Driss Basri, ignited ideas that the Arab League's sponsorship of the call by Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba for holding the summit might finally be realized.

Morocco had positively responded to the call yet Algeria put the condition of a foreign ministers conference to prepare for the summit. It was not known yet, however, whether Algiers had foresaken its other condition for the participation of the Saharan Arab Republic led by the Polisario Front which is battling Rabat for sovereignty over the Western Sahara.

Tunisia had resorted to Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi, a Tunisian, to evade the Algerian condition since the Saharan Republic is not a League member and hence will not be invited to attend.

ALGERIA

Brahimi Press Conference on Maghreb, Greek Relations

LD111736 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi, alternate member of the Political Bureau and prime minister, returned to Algeria this morning following an official visit to Hungary and Greece. Before departing Greece Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi held a press conference in which he presented a comprehensive review of Algerian-Greek relations.

In reply to a question about the construction of the Arab Maghreb, the brother prime minister said: You all know the Algerian standpoint concerning the construction of the Arab Maghreb. If we go back in history, we know that Algeria has proved, before, during, and after the armed struggle that her work in the political arena was always directed toward a united Arab Maghreb.

You also know that Western Sahara was colonized by Spain for centuries, and in 1975, after the departure of the Spanish forces, the Moroccan forces invaded Western Sahara. Here I officially and insistently remind you of Algeria's policy: It does not claim even a single centimeter of that region.

Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi added: Algeria has always called, since the Saharan people took up arms to struggle against the Moroccan occupation, for direct negotiations between the two conflicting sides, the Polisario and Morocco. Algeria has been calling for the application of the self-determination principle for 10 years. He pointed out that the recent Addis Ababa summit unanimously issued a resolution to recognize the SDAR, and also that Morocco and the Polisario should engage in direct negotiations. The brother prime minister recalled the UN resolutions of its 39th session which call for negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario, stressing that Algeria considers the Western Sahara problem as a decolonization problem.

Concerning the construction of the Maghreb, Brother Brahimi said that Algeria set an example by signing the fraternity and concord treaty in 1983 with Tunisia, which Mauritania also joined. This treaty will remain open for all the countries of the Maghreb who want to join it.

The brother prime minister said Algeria is convinced that any unity between two countries cannot be established hastily, but requires complete coordination in political and economic fields. Therefore, Algeria considers that the construction of the Arab Maghreb should be established in stages and on solid bases, and not on the basis of tactical and circumstantial unity, based on temporary interests which does not serve the interests of the peoples.

Concerning the commercial exchanges between Algeria and Greece, Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi said that they have quadrupled during the past 3 years.

At the end of the press conference, the brother prime minister said that he handed a message from President Chadli Bendjedid to President Karamanlis.

Joint Communique Supports Palestinians

LD121827 Algiers APS in English 1342 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Athens, 12/1 (APS) — Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi was back home on Thursday following a two day official visit to Greece. The communique released on this occasion expressed the two sides satisfaction at steady development of cooperation relations and exchanges. Both sides reaffirmed the common keenness to boost relations of cooperation and pull them up to the level of their political relations.

Regarding the international situation, the two delegations expressed deep concern over the deterioration of international relations and reiterated their commitment to the principles of peaceful settlement of disputes in the world concerning the Middle East issue. The two countries expressed solidarity with the Palestinian people in its struggle to recover its inalienable rights. They remind that there can be no solution without full participation. The two sides also reaffirmed their unflinching

support to the Saharan people's right to self determination and independence.

Mauritanian Ministerial Delegation Arrives 13 Jan
LD131209 Algiers APS in English 1047 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Algiers, 13/1 (APS) — An important Mauritanian economic delegation including Messrs Tarkit Ould Sidi, minister of planning and land improvment, Mohamed Fadel Ould Dah, minister of hydrocarbons and energy, and Isselmou Ould Baba, minister of fisheries of maritime economy, arrived today here in the framework of periodical consultations between the two countries.

In a short declaration to the press, Mr Tarkit Ould Sidi indicated that this visit, which comes within the framework of periodical consultations between leaders and responsibles of the two countries, will enable to find ways and means for a reinforcement of the bilateral cooperation particularly in fields of hydrocarbons, and energy and fisheries where there are complementarities between economies of Algeria and Mauritania.

LIBYA

Tripoli Reports Assassination of Diplomat in Rome
LD131405 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Brother Faraj Makhiyun, member of the People's Committee of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau for Information Affairs in Rome, was assassinated this morning. The deceased was going from his residence to his work at the People's Bureau when he was shot by criminal terrorists.

Al-Burkan Claims Responsibility
LD131811 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1712 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli, 13 Jan (JANA) — The hands of the murderer terrorists have reached out to treacherously murder Brother Faraj Makhiyun, member of the People's Committee for Information Affairs, at the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Rome this morning.

Behind this cowardly action are the hidden hands of the criminal murderers of the groups belonging to Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and Nabih Birri, as well as the remnants of the terrorists of the Muslim Brotherhood — groups which have links with the American CIA and which have agreed among themselves to execute such a crime.

The declaration made by the so-called Al-Burkan [Volcano] Organization claiming responsibility for this vile action falls within the course of these agreements, which had been uncovered when at this very time last year terrorists assassinated Brother 'Umar al-Taqazi, secretary of the People's Committee of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Rome.

The criminals who today carried out the crime of murdering Brother Faraj Makhiyun have revealed the nature of their role and have exposed the reality of their disgraceful links with American imperialism. They will not escape punishment.

Moroccan Minister, Delegation Arrive in Tripoli
LD121038 Tripoli JANA in English 0945 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Thani 22, January 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Moroccan minister of agriculture and agrarian reform arrived yesterday evening in Tripoli, accompanied by a Moroccan delegation of experts on a visit of a few days to the Jamahiriyah.

Iranian Envoy Delivers Message on Ethiopian Falashas
LD121443 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Foreign Liaison Bureau, received this morning Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Kazem Khansari, who conveyed to him a message from Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati about the transportation of the Ethiopian Falasha Jews to occupied Palestine and his country's attitude toward this serious operation.

Foreign Minister Receives SFRY Ambassador
LD121854 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] The secretary of the Popular Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison this morning received the ambassador of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia who handed him a message for the brother leader of the revolution from the president of the SFRY Federal Executive Council.

During this meeting they discussed bilateral relations and the strengthening of the prospects of cooperation in all the fields in a manner that would achieve the common interest of the two friendly peoples. They also reviewed the situation in the Mediterranean region and a number of issues of common interest. The importance of backing the Nonaligned Movement and activating it so that it can perform its role on the international level was stressed at the meeting. They agreed on the need to coordinate efforts and exchange views between the Jamahiriyah and Yugoslavia on all issues of interest to the two friendly countries.

MOROCCO

Statement Issued on Clashes with 'Mercenaries'
LD141148 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Rabat 14 Jan MAP — A statement issued by the Moroccan Information Ministry last night stated that a formation from the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces, while contributing to the construction of the last part of the security wall, was engaged in

fighting the day before yesterday with a group of mercenaries armed with a large number of tanks and mechanized vehicles. The clash led to fierce battles during which the mercenaries, who fled in the direction of the Algerian territories, suffered great losses.

The ministry stated that a separate statement will be issued later detailing the final results of those battles as soon as the General Command of the south region finishes counting the material and human losses suffered by the enemy.

SUDAN

Vice President, Delegation Leave for Tanzania

JN111304 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Jan (SUNA) — First Vice President 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib left Khartoum for Tanzania this morning on a 3-day visit at the invitation of the Tanzanian president in order to participate in the Zanzibar national day celebrations which begin tomorrow, Saturday. He will also hold talks with Tanzanian officials on current African problems and some issues of common concern.

The vice president is accompanied by a high-level delegation composed of 'Uthman Sa'id Isma'il, the education and guidance minister; Saghirun al-Zayn Saghirun, the irrigation minister; and 'Abd al-Malik al-Ji'li, head of the Higher Council for Religious and Awqaf Affairs.

AFP: Libyan Charges on Jewish Airlift Dismissed

HK130137 Hong Kong AFP in English 0129 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, Jan 13 (AFP) — Sudan has dismissed as null and void Libyan allegations accusing Sudan of taking part in the secret airlift of Ethiopian Jews to Israel.

The Sudan news agency (SUNA) yesterday quoted Foreign Minister Hashim Osman as saying Libya had taken the initiative of accusing Sudan because of its own "direct and indirect involvement in the transportation operation" through its support of the Ethiopian regime.

The foreign minister's statement was made in response to a Libyan request to the Arab League last Sunday urging an emergency meeting to consider Sudan's alleged role in the exodus of the Falashas, according to SUNA. "At the same time as we reject any accusation of Sudan's involvement in the migration of the Falashas, we call on the Arab League to condemn the Libyan-Ethiopian-Zionist alliance directed against Sudan," the statement said. "This alliance is directed in the first place against the Sudanese, Eritrean, Palestinian and Somali peoples respectively," it said.

The statement said it has been proved that Ethiopia had "secretly received spare parts for its American-made planes from Israel in addition to large quantities of Soviet weapons captured by Israel from southern Lebanon. "In this specific time, Israel has extended to Ethiopia 220 tons of foodstuffs and medications. These will be shipped from Eilat port to Assab port in Ethiopia precisely on January 27, the statement added.

Ethiopia Using Falashas To 'Bargain' With Israel

EA112256 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text]SUDAN NEWS AGENCY has received a comprehensive report from informed sources in Ethiopia dealing with Ethiopian-Israeli relations. The report disclosed details about the aims and motives of [words indistinct] planned by Ethiopia since (?1983).

The report pointed out that Ethiopian-Israeli relations during the Haile Selassie era were very close. Military relations developed through the (?Nebelbal) forces: elite strike forces trained by Israel for military operations carried out by the Ethiopian Government against the liberation fronts in Eritrea.

Relations between the two countries have a point where Ethiopia receives trade and military assistance from Israel through the Amiral Trading Company headed by an ex-colonel of Israeli intelligence, who is currently in Ethiopia managing the company's business.

The report, which has been prepared by Ethiopian sources, also pointed out that Ethiopia is using the Falashas to bargain with Israel to get further assistance. The report pointed out that cooperation has expanded to such an extent that the Ethiopians rely completely on Israel to maintain Western weapons used by the Ethiopian Army, particularly the F5 P bombers.

The report stated that the agreement to transport the Falashas came about after Ethiopia concluded a huge military deal at the beginning of 1983 including communication equipment, spare parts for Western weapons, and field equipment delivered through Amiral and entered as part of trade exchanges in order to mislead.

Ethiopia permitted an Israeli delegation to visit the Gondar region to see for themselves the conditions of Jews. The visit came about through senior American Jews. Israel offered Ethiopia joint security cooperation, and Israeli experts were at the point of arriving in Ethiopia were it not for Soviet pressure. This made it necessary for the experts to come under various guises.

The joint security cooperation came after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. Ethiopia sent one of its bishops to represent the Ethiopian church in Jerusalem and he became a sort of undeclared ambassador for Ethiopia in Jerusalem. He was given all the privileges of an accredited ambassador and it is he who supervised the operation of transporting the Ethiopian Jews.

Ethiopia was exposed to drought and this situation was used as a cover to transport the Jews. The report added that this made groups of Falashas migrate to Sudan with other Ethiopian groups of various faiths in search for shelter and food. The report said that the Falashas suffer extreme poverty and persecution in Ethiopia, and that the move to transport them to Israel came about within the framework of a worldwide movement under pressure from Jewish groups in the world.

Palestinian Reportedly Killed in Clash With Israelis

LD131127 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 13 Jan (KUNA) — Informed sources disclosed to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* new details, published today, about the martyrdom of the commander of the Palestinian forces in Sudan, Brigadier General Jum'ah Misbah Isma'il and his assistant Musa Sulayman Abu al-'Ala.

These sources told the newspaper that "during the operation of transporting the Falasha Jews from Sudan to occupied Palestine through an airbridge set up between occupied Palestine and Sudan, some of the Palestinian fighting units present in Sudan discovered one of the camps and attempted to challenge the Israeli military transport aircraft and engaged Israeli soldiers accompanying these aircraft, a matter which led to the martyrdom of Brigadier General Isma'il and his assistant Abu al-'Ala."

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM quoted these sources as having said, that after this incident "the Israeli quarters expected that the disclosure of the operation would occur in a story which might be fabricated by the Palestinians according to their own interests. Israel resorted to disclosing the operation of the flight of the Jews and warned if the military operation which took place in Sudan was revealed it would be forced to expose the role of all the parties in the operation."

In connection with events which occurred during the operations to transport the Falashas to occupied Palestine, some informed parties told *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* another story which does not contradict the first story, but differs with regard to the military clash reported in the first story.

According to the second story, the paper said that Brigadier General Isma'il "discovered camps giving refuge to Ethiopian Jews in Sudan by observing the movements of aircraft transporting the Jews in Sudanese airspace. Through his experience he knew they were Israeli military transport aircraft and he dispatched his assistant Abu al-'Ala to Tunisia to inform Palestinian officials of the matter and provided him with a report backed by pictures and documents." It mentioned that "Abu al-'Ala returned to Sudan after delivering the message and met his fate with his commander Jum'ah on the day after his return."

Sudan has more than once, and through more than one official, denied its involvement in the operation of the flight of the Falasha Jews to occupied Palestine.

Armed Forces Kill Rebel Leader, Aides

JN131046 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Juba, Rabi' Thani 21 Jan 13 (SUNA) — Rebel leader Col (Prisons) John Makur was killed along with a number of his aides during the Armed Forces attack on their camp in Terakeka area last Thursday. The Equatoria military area's commander, in a statement broadcast by Radio Juba Saturday evening, thanked Terakekas citizens for their cooperation with the Army. The citizens of the area chased the outlaws and captured 150 rifles left behind and handed the weapons to the Army.

SPLA Radio on Rhino Battalion Successes

EA111716 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 11 JAN 85

[Text] The SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] forces of Rhino Battalion under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel (P.F.C.) Martin (Markur Aleo) have in two separate attacks inflicted heavy losses on the enemy forces in the last 5 days in Lakes Province.

On 6 January 1985 Rhino Battalion ambushed an enemy convoy between Majok and Aluakluak, 42 miles southeast of Rumbek, the capital of Lakes Province. The enemy suffered 21 killed, including an officer, and 1 Magirus truck destroyed.

On 7 January 1985 landmines planted by Rhino Battalion and supported by an ambush destroyed two Magirus trucks, moving from Rumbek to Yirol between Aluakluak and (Kayeer) Station.

On the other hand, the commander of Rhino Battalion, Lt Col (P.F.C.) Martin (Markur Aleo) in a report to the commander in chief of the SPLA, Col Dr John Garang, said that Lakes Province is solidly behind the SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] and that more than 200 members of the Sudanese Armed Forces have joined Rhino Battalion and more are coming every day.

In response to this, the commander in chief of the SPLA, Col Dr John Garang, has sent a message of congratulations to the commander, officers and NCOs and men of Rhino Battalion for these victories in Bahr el-Ghazal administrative area.

SPLA Radio Reports 37 Enemy Soldiers Killed

EA111708 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Units of SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] forces of the central Upper Nile operational zone commanded by Lieutenant Paulino (Bata Wagak) ambushed enemy soldiers near Bentiu. Thirty-seven enemy soldiers were killed and 40 seriously wounded. tHe SPLA captured 8 G-3 automatic rifles, 1 60-mm mortar, 104 60-mm and 82-mm shells and lots of G-3 and ME-42 rifle ammunition.

On the other hand, the enemy soldiers have deserted Wang Kei and (Mayom) after burning down all the houses. The commander of the SPLA forces, central Upper Nile operational zone, Lieutenant Colonel William Nyuon Bany, member of the SPLA high command and member of the Executive Committee of the SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement], has declared Wang Kei and (Mayom) as liberated areas. Lt Col William Nyuon Bany has also congratulated Tiger and Timsah Battalions for beating off an enemy attack on their main camp.

TUNISIA

'Relative Calm' After University Violence

PM111958 London Al-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 11 Jan 85 p 1

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureau report: "Relative Calm After 2 Days of Violence; Strengthening Security Measures Around Tunisian Universities and Institutes"]

[Text] Tunis — The situation inside science and law colleges in Tunis is relatively calm after the crisis that broke out at the law college a few days ago as a result of the students' boycott of the continuing examination surveillance method. The crisis in the past 2 days led to the outbreak of clashes between students belonging to different political parties.

The Tunisian Ministry of Interior reinforced security measures near Tunisian universities and higher education institutes as a precaution against a fresh outbreak of violence. In the meantime college deans and directors of institutes have threatened to take strong measures against any attempts to undermine the dignity and prestige of the teaching staff "by those students who indulge in violence inside the universities."

This threat was contained in a statement issued yesterday following attacks in the past 2 days on some teachers who intervened to rescue 'Ali al-Fishawi, a pro-Neo Destourian Party student, from an attack by some political extremist students. Among the teachers was Al-Munsif ibn Salamah, the college dean.

It was reported in the Tunisian capital yesterday that two masked students assaulted two science college professors and broke one of the professor's teeth.

The Tunisian League for Human Rights issued a statement yesterday condemning the violence and denouncing what it called "the barbaric and shameful behavior of some students." The league said freedom is indivisible and called upon the students to respect one another's freedom of expression and thought. It urged the students to halt all acts of violence so that the university as an institution will not be jeopardized.

The teaching staff of the College of Science said in a similar statement that "the acts of violence that took place inside the college are contrary to the general policy of the university institutions." They denounced these actions and affirmed their readiness to perform their duties regardless of the strength of "the groups that indulge in provocation and cause disturbances."

The body of teachers of higher education and scientific research also issued a similar statement, pointing out that "such phenomena alienate the university from its natural atmosphere and threaten its scientific gains."

It was stated in the Tunisian capital yesterday that the disputes are basically due to the lack of understanding among political parties on the representation of students on college boards.

WESTERN SAHARA

Algiers: Battle Claims for 1st Week of Jan

LD120747 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] A Saharan Information Ministry statement says that the Saharan Popular Liberation Army, which is continuing the Greater Arab Maghreb offensive, launched an attack during the first week of January on a number of positions of the Moroccan forces. The statement made it clear that the Saharan fighters used heavy artillery to shell a number of positions of the expansionist Moroccan forces in El Aargub region. These attacks resulted in 20 Moroccan soldiers killed and 35 wounded, in addition to the destruction of a number of military motorized vehicles.

Other positions of the Moroccan forces close to the coastal town of Dakhla were also hit, which resulted in the destruction of a store for military munitions, as well as a number of heavy weapons.

Information Ministry Claims 311 Moroccans Killed

LD131645 Algiers APS in Arabic 1420 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] The Liberated Territories — Five hundred and sixty-one Moroccan casualties, including 311 dead; the downing of one Mirage aircraft, the pilot of which was killed; and the capturing of 3 soldiers were the outcome of a fierce attack which the Saharan People's Liberation Army launched at dawn on Saturday against the Moroccan defense line which was constructed recently in Mahbes region, according to a statement issued by the SDAR Information Ministry.

The SPLA combatants waged the battles along a 15-km front and occupied 3 Moroccan positions throughout the day. The Moroccan command, whose forces fled in chaos and disorder, tried unsuccessfully to save the situation through the intervention of the Air Force.

The statement pointed out that the fierce attack, which falls within the framework of the Greater Arab Maghreb offensive, has also resulted in the destruction of 17 tanks, 14 troop-carrying vehicles, 9 Land Rovers, 12 Toyota vehicles equipped with machineguns, rocket launchers, 4 dual 14.5 mm vehicle-mounted guns, 1 Stalin launcher, 120 mm mortars, ammunition and fuel dumps, and 22 12.7 mm mag machineguns.

Algiers: Moroccan Plane Shot Down by Polisario

LD122359 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] A communique issued yesterday by the Saharan Ministry of Information and Culture stated that the Polisario revolutionaries have shot down a Moroccan military aircraft, of unidentified type, southwest of Mahbes, as a result of the battles which have been taking place in this region since yesterday morning. The statement added that the Saharan People's Liber-

ation Army was able to inflict considerable losses to the Moroccan side.

More Moroccan Planes Downed

LD141309 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Excerpt] A communique issued today by the Saharan Ministry of Information and Culture stated that the antiaircraft units of the Saharan Liberation Army yesterday shot down two Moroccan aircraft, killing the pilots. The statement added that the Moroccan Air Force is carrying out attacks using fragmentation bombs. Morocco has chosen the option of escalating the war and it is using the F-20 which it had obtained from the United States.

The statement concluded that the financers are giving Morocco loans under the pretext that they are for development but we all know that these loans are given to arms dealers.

ETHIOPIA

Trade Cooperation Agreement Signed With Egypt

EA132228 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1000 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Revolutionary Ethiopia and Egypt today signed a trade cooperation agreement to enable them to exchange products from their respective countries and to broaden and strengthen their existing trade relations. This 1-year agreement was signed by Comrade Wollie Chekol, Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee member and minister of external trade, on behalf of revolutionary Ethiopia, and by Egyptian Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Dr Mustafa al-Sa'id.

The agreement signed by the two countries sets out the type and quantity of products each country has to provide to the other as well as sale and purchase agreements of governmental organizations of the two countries. According to the agreement, revolutionary Ethiopia will send to Egypt livestock, meat, and farm products, and Egypt will make available various kinds of metals, fertilizers, medicine, building materials, and the like. In addition, the two countries have agreed to meet the need of their respective countries by jointly producing farm products and minerals.

The high-ranking Egyptian delegation led by Dr Mustafa al-Sa'id left for home today on the completion of its 5-day working visit. The delegation was seen off at Bole International Airport by Comrade Chekol Wollie. Also present during the departure and agreement-signing ceremony were Comrade Kesela Mulate, assistant minister of External Trade, and the ministry's heads of department.

TPLF Captures Provincial Capital 8 Jan

EA130928 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0500 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] The TPLF [Tigre People's Liberation Front] forces fighting for national rights and equality for the people of Tigray have captured the town of Debark, the capital town of north Wegera Province of the Gondar region on 8 January 1985. During the fighting, the TPLF fighters completely destroyed [word indistinct] found in Debark town, repulsed a supporting force from Gondar, and captured weapons and property.

KENYA

Reportage on Visit by UK Foreign Secretary Howe

Meets With Moi

EA111829 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi today at state house Nairobi held talks with the visiting British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe. During the talks, which touched on bilateral and international issues, President Moi and Sir Geoffrey noted with satisfaction the strong relations existing between Kenya and Britain.

President Moi said Kenya appreciated the substantial British support for Kenya's development programs. However, the president and Sir Geoffrey noted that there were many projects financed by Britain which sometimes took too long to be completed. They agreed that every effort should be made to ensure that those projects were completed in time so that wananchi could benefit from them.

After the talks, President Moi hosted a luncheon in honor of the visiting British foreign secretary.

Backs UN Namibia Plan

EA121841 Nairobi KNA in English 1051 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Nairobi Jan 12 — Independence for Namibia should be on the basis of the Security Council Resolution 435, and not the withdrawal of Cuban troops in Angola, the visiting British foreign and commonwealth secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe has said.

Sir Geoffrey Howe told a press conference today that his country attached importance to full, early and unqualified independence for Namibia based on the UN plan, whose implementation cannot be linked to the prior withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. However he noted that there is some political reality which cannot be ignored, adding the scale and duration of the Cuban presence in Angola is a factor which has to be taken into account.

He also said there might be differences of emphasis regarding the views expressed by various countries, concerning Namibia's independence. Answering a question over the contact group on the issue of Namibia's independence, having delegated the issue to the United States, Sir Geoffrey said that the present negotiations by America seem to be the best and in that case, the United Kingdom supports it fully.

On his country's withdrawal from UNESCO by the end of this year, Sir Geoffrey told journalists that the organization had become politicized and moved away from its aims and objectives, which are cultural and scientific. He added, not until the organizations activities are decentralized from Paris then Britain will have to pull out. [sentence as received]

He hailed Kenya, and President Moi in particular, for his efforts to normalize relations with all her neighbouring countries. On his African tour during which he visited Zambia, Zimbabwe and Kenya, Sir Geoffrey expressed his admiration of the extent to which all three countries are involved in bringing political stability in their countries and their efforts on the advance of peace and political stability in Namibia.

Leaves for Home

EA121851 Nairobi KNA in English 0812 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] Nairobi, January 12 — The British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, Sir Geoffrey Howe, and Lady Howe left Nairobi early this morning shortly before 1 (one) a.m. aboard a British Airways flight for home after a two day official visit to Kenya.

They were seen off at the Jomo Kenyatta international airport by the minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale, Assistant Minister Mr Philip Leakey, and Mrs Leakey, Permanent Secretary Mr Bethuel Kiplagat, Kenya high commissioner to UK, Mr Benjamin Kipkulei, the chief of protocol, Mr Denis Afande, and the entire staff of the British High Commission here in Kenya led by the high commissioner, Sir Leonard Allinson, and Lady Allinson.

Before he boarded his aircraft, Sir Geoffrey held final talks with his counterpart at the V.I.P. lounge at the airport. These talks held between the two ministers alone lasted about 20 (twenty) minutes and are believed to be winding up various talks Sir Geoffrey has held in Kenya with Kenya Government. The two ministers met in London in October, 1984 and discussed bilateral and international matters and last night's meeting was aimed at examining various issues the two ministers have discussed lately with a view to planning their next meeting likely to take place in London when Mr Mwangale pays an official visit to Britain as the guest of Sir Geoffrey.

While in Kenya, Sir Geoffrey held talks with his excellency the president, Daniel arap Moi; the vice-president, Mr Mwai Kibaki; the minister for foreign affairs, Mr Eligaj Mwangale and the minister for finance and planning, Prof. George Saitoti. He also handed over Kenyatta University College library and locomotive to the Kenya railways. At a final press conference yesterday evening, Sir Geoffrey said he had held very useful talks with the Kenya Government and thanked the government and people of Kenya for their kind hospitality.

SOMALIA

Radio Halgan on 2 DFSS Attacks on Somali Troops

EA111059 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 10 Jan 85

[Text] Units from the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces have launched two attacks on the loyalist troops of General Siad Barre stationed at (Godobyar) in the Mudug region and Godinlabe in the Ghel Ghel Gudut region, central Somalia, over the past week.

The DFSS units attacked (Godobyar) base on 3 January 1985, killing 15 soldiers and wounding 25 others. The DFSS units from the Gen Aynanshe Division also destroyed two Fiat vehicles and destroyed the (Godobyar) base and all its military hardware. All of the DFSS fighters involved in the attack on (Godobyar) returned to base safely.

In the other attack launched by DFSS fighters on 6 January 1985 at Godinlabe, near Dhuusa Marceb, the capital of Ghel Ghel Gudut region, heavy casualties were inflicted on the loyalist troops of Gen Siad Barre. The gallant DFSS fighters killed 26 soldiers and wounded 35 others. Godinlabe is situated on the main tarmac highway linking the south of the country to the northern regions. The fighters who launched the attack on Godinlabe returned to their base safely.

TANZANIA

Nyerere Delivers 'Last' Speech to Envoys as President

EA111901 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Dar es Salaam — President Nyerere today expressed the hope that food and cashcrop production would increase if the current rains continued in the country.

In his new year message to foreign envoys accredited to Tanzania at State House, mwalimu said: If the weather situation continues to improve as it did at the beginning of the year, Tanzanians have reason to expect bigger harvests than last year's. Mwalimu said, however, that transport problems had adversely affected agriculture in some parts of the country as a result of the late deliveries of fertilizers and seeds.

President Nyerere said during the past year the government had reviewed the food problem in the country and how to deal with the situation.

Mwalimu thanked foreign countries, international agencies, and voluntary organizations for their food aid to Tanzania. Last year, mwalimu said, Tanzania received more than 96,500 [word indistinct] of cereals and flour from various foreign countries and organizations, including the EEC, the World Food Program, and Australia.

On the liberation of southern Africa, President Nyerere, who is the current OAU chairman and chairman of the Frontline States in the liberation of southern Africa, said Tanzania would continue to perpetuate its support for the liberation struggle being waged by the people of South Africa and Namibia. He said Tanzania would not desist from demanding that Namibia be given its independence in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution No 435 and that it would not accept the linkage of Namibia's independence with the withdrawal of Cuban troops in Angola.

Mwalimi Nyerere said the speech he was delivering at State House would be the last one to the envoys as president of the United Republic of Tanzania.

CAMEROON

Niger Minister on Border Issue With Nigeria

AB112235 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The head of state, Paul Biya, this morning received in audience at the New Deal Palace Mr Oumarou Ide, the Niger minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. At the end of the audience, the Niger minister stated he brought a personal message from President Seyni Kountche of Niger to President Paul Biya. The Niger minister also reviewed cooperation between Cameroon and Niger, two countries that, among other things, cooperate within the framework of the Lake Chad Basin Organization. Let's listen to the Niger minister:

[Begin recording] [Ide] Cooperation between Cameroon and Niger covers several fields, not only within the framework of the Lake Chad Basin Organization, but in other organizations like the OAU and the United Nations.

[Unidentified reporter] (?Mr Minister, how do things stand) on the border issue between Nigeria and Niger?

[Ide] The problem between Niger and Nigeria is, as [words indistinct], a problem of neighborliness. Nigeria is an important neighbor to us with whom we have multiple and long-lasting relations. The closing the Nigerian border is a sovereign act which we respect, despite the sufferings that the closure inflicts on our people and country. As you just said, we have undertaken a number of contacts with the Nigerian authorities in order to let them know the amount of anxiety this situation is causing us. We respect Nigeria's sovereignty. While we welcome all decisions that, within the framework of this sovereignty, the Nigerian authorities must make — both for the protection of this sovereignty and also for what they consider as the welfare of their people — our most fervent desire is that this situation be resolved as quickly as possible so that calm and harmony may reign between our two countries, and beyond that in Africa and in the subregion, since Niger is not the only country that as been affected by this situation. Cameroon is also a neighbor of Nigeria, as are other countries, and we hope that it will not be long before the Nigerian authorities regain order in their own country and to decide to reopen their borders for the greater benefit of Africa. [end recording]

Minister on Coffee Production Problems

AB112210 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The minister of commerce and industry, Edouard Nomo Ongolo, today presided over a meeting with governors and prefects of coffee producing areas in preparation for the launching of the coming 1984-85 coffee season. This important meeting allowed the commerce and industry minister to take stock of the 1983-84 season, which generally was not good due to a drop in coffee production. In fact, many problems were encountered during the just-ended season, problems which are attributed to many factors, notably to highly unfavorable climatic conditions. As such, production of robusta coffee fell from 105,000 tons to 47,000; that is, more than 55 percent, while that of arabica coffee fell from 23,000 tons to 17,000, or 26 percent. The fall in the quality of our production means a reduction in our export revenue, which is also aggravated by the deterioration of the terms of trade.

Edouard Nomo Ongolo seized the opportunity to recall all the measures of encouragement and incentive offered by the government to help farmers face the crisis, especially the recent presidential decree fixing new purchasing prices of coffee from farmers for the 1984-85 season.

CHAD

Rebel Groups Unite in South Under Kotiga

NC131950 Paris AFP in English 1913 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Paris, Jan 13 (AFP) — Several rebel commandos in southern Chad have united under the leadership of Colonel Alphonse Kotiga, the new leader of the southern front of the National Liberation Army (ANL), another rebel group said in a statement received here today.

A spokesman for the Chadian People's Revolutionary Movement (MRP) said in the statement that the decision followed a meeting organised by the MRP in October. About 100 delegates from six southern commandos fighting the government of President Hissein Habre took part in the meeting, according to the statement.

The ANL is led by former President Goukouni Oueddei, whose Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT) occupies most of northern Chad.

However, Colonel Kotiga said in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in September that he had no contacts with the GUNT, which he said was "increasingly manipulated by Libya". The colonel was then leader of the so-called Red Commandos, one of the groups said to have taken part in the October meeting.

He also said in the interview that Colonel Wadal Abdelkader Kamougue, who heads the MRP, no longer had popular support in the south.

GABON

Bongo Receives Guinean Foreign Minister, Conte Message

AB111800 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1230 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] There is a new dimension in relations between Guinea and Gabon. The Guinean minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Facine Toure, announced yesterday the forthcoming opening of a Guinean Embassy in Libreville following a meeting with Gabonese President Omar Bongo, to whom he delivered a message from President Lansana Conte.

[Begin Toure recording] Relations between Guinea and Gabon are excellent and we intend making very rapid progress in developing them. This explains why we have already appointed our ambassador to Gabon. Now we have to examine together the possibilities for creating the infrastructure in which to establish this diplomatic mission which we would like to make operational as soon as possible. [end recording]

Afro-American Conference Ends 10 January
AB111400 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1230 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Excerpt] After 4 days of deliberations, African and American delegates who have been meeting in Libreville within the framework of the 15th Conference of the Afro-American Institute parted yesterday.

Georges Rawiri, the Gabonese first deputy prime minister, who spoke at the closing ceremony, appealed to the international community for increased assistance to Africa. For the Gabonese statesman, this can only be achieved in solidarity and with respect for the sovereignty of states. Listen to Mr Rawiri:

[Begin Rawiri recording] The industrial world cannot remain (?indifferent) to the tragedy going on in other parts of the world, where thousands of people die every day. In view of this, we henceforth want true solidarity to underlie the relations between the United States, [words indistinct], and our countries.

In our present world, there is no point trying to live in isolation. In this world of interdependence, how can we not — we African countries that are hardest hit by the current world economic crisis aggravated by indebtedness, hunger, drought, and desert-encroachment — how can we not count on the United States, as a partner, to help us out of our stagnation? Each of us would benefit from this cooperation, because helping the poor countries is helping oneself. [end recording]

ZAIRE

Further on Changes Made in Armed Forces
AB131151 Paris AFP in French 0759 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 13 Jan (AFP) — Two of the generals retired this week by President Mobutu Sese Seko were commanding one [as received] military region, an informed source in Kinshasa disclosed yesterday.

Contrary the erroneous information previously received, many of the officers, retired following an important reorganization to increase the number of young cadres, were commanding officers. General Itambo Munkina, who was commanding the First Region (Kinshasa), and General Danga Ngbokoli, who was commanding the Third Region (the rest of the country except the southern Province of Shaba, including the east and northeast), were retired. The same thing applies to Colonel Kazadi Kakona, who was in charge of military engineering.

As proof of efforts to rejuvenate the Army, all the military regions are now being commanded by colonels after the commander of the First Region (Shaba) [as received] had been replaced. In the same way, General Somao Gbodo Mbele, who has been appointed an assistant at the new General Inspectorate of the Armed Forces, has also been replaced as the head of the 1st Armored Brigade by a colonel.

AZAP further announced that Lieutenant Colonel Kanengele Musopa, the chief of staff of the Third Region, was being prosecuted for "diverting weapons of war" (without any specification of the circumstances). On Friday, he was stripped of his honorary title of member of the National Order of the Leopard.

Cholera Kills at Least 19 in Eastern Areas
AB111810 Paris AFP in English 0753 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Kinshasa, Jan 11 (AFP) — Cholera in eastern Zaire has killed at least 19 people in the past few weeks, a medical source reported here Thursday. The deaths occurred near Goma town on the border with Rwanda and around Vitshumbi in the Virunga National Park, 100 kms further north, the source said. Cholera is endemic in those regions, the source noted. The latest outbreak had not yet been brought under control, it added.

4-Nation Lake Chad Joint Patrol Meeting Deadlocked

AB131332 Lagos NAN in English 1216 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Maiduguri, Jan 13 (NAN) — The first meeting of the heads of joint patrol teams for the security of Lake Chad has ended in Maiduguri without defining the patrol areas in each member country, a correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) who covered the meeting reports.

A source at the meeting told NAN on Friday that the deadlock resulted from the refusal of some delegates to accept the harmonisation of "equidistance of the patrol areas" within the four member-countries. The source said that in spite of all approaches and goodwill shown by all parties, none of the proposals at the meeting was unanimously accepted.

The joint patrol teams, formed by the Lake Chad Basin Commission, have their membership drawn from the Republics of Chad. Cameroon, Niger and Nigeria. The three-day meeting was convened to lay down guidelines to be followed by each patrol team during their field operations.

GHANA

Rawlings, PRC Envoy Discuss Bilateral Issues

AB112150 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] The Chinese ambassador to Ghana, Mr Jia Huaiji, today called on the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, at the Castle Osu to discuss bilateral issues between Ghana and China.

An official statement in Accra this evening said the discussions covered the strengthening of already cordial relations between the two countries and some matters arising out of the visit of the Ghana Government delegation led by the special adviser to the PNDC, Captain Kojo Tsikata, to China last November. Mr Huaiji briefed Chairman Rawlings on developments in Sino-Ghanaian cooperation in the fields of agriculture and industry. He said that substantial progress has been made. He spoke particularly about the latest developments on the Afife irrigation project in the Volta region, which has been completed with Chinese assistance.

The envoy stated that in pursuance of stronger economic relations between the two countries, a group of Chinese technical experts in gold mining are currently in Ghana discussing cooperation in gold production. He also mentioned exploratory discussions between Chinese experts and some fishing companies in Ghana. Similar discussions on cooperation between the Chinese and a number of textile industries in Ghana are also in progress. Mr Huaiji hoped the extent of the kind of positive economic cooperation between China and Ghana will serve as a practical demonstration of South-South cooperation.

At the meeting was Captain Kojo Tsikata, the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, and the first secretary of the Chinese Embassy in Ghana.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Minister To Discuss Cabral OAU Post With Diouf

AB120958 Paris AFP in French 1301 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Lisbon, 11 Jan (AFP) — Guinea-Bissau Foreign Minister Julio Semedo will arrive in Dakar on Friday to inform Senegalese President Abdou Diouf of Guinea-Bissau's severe disapproval of the possible candidacy of former Guinea-Bissau President Luis Cabral for the post of OAU secretary general.

IVORY COAST

Egypt's Butrus Ghali Arrives for Talks 13 Jan

AB140925 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 0745 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] Butrus Ghali, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived in Abidjan yesterday. He is bearer of a message from President Mubarak to President Houphouet-Boigny. Egypt and Ivory Coast have diplomatic relations and meet within several international organizations. Mr Ghali, who will hold an important working session with his Ivorian counterpart, is here to strengthen the cooperation bonds existing between our two countries.

[Begin Ghali recording] I think that the first objective of my mission is to hand a written message from the president of the Egyptian Republic over to President Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast. The second objective is to hold talks with my brother and friend, Simeon Ake, my Ivorian counterpart. We will first discuss bilateral relations between our two countries and then the common actions we undertake within African organizations, notably the OAU, the Nonligned Movement, and the United Nations. Finally, we will certainly tackle issues such as the future of our continent, the economic crisis which prevails in Africa, and the resolutions adopted by the heads of state and government during the last Addis Ababa summit. This will be a preliminary to the conference on economic matters at the ministerial level and then an African summit. Finally, we will meet again at an OAU ministerial council meeting in the coming weeks. Our discussions will be centered on all these problems and will also be aimed at strengthening the diplomatic relations between our two countries. [end recording]

Canadian External Affairs Minister Leaves for Kenya

AB121020 Paris AFP in French 0920 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Abidjan, 12 Jan (AFP) — Mrs Monique Vezina, the Canadian minister of external affairs, left Abidjan last night for Nairobi, after a 3-day visit in Ivory Coast.

During her visit, Mrs Vezina has held a long discussion with President Houphouet-Boigny on bilateral cooperation. She also took part in the deliberations of the second Canada-Ivory Coast joint commission on cooperation.

NIGERIA

Oil Minister Denies Plans To Withdraw From OPEC

AB111720 Paris AFP in French 1640 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Vienna, 11 Jan (AFP) — Mr Tam David-West, the Nigerian oil minister, flatly denied on Friday rumors circulating in London to the effect that Nigeria is on the point of withdrawing from the OPEC. In a telephone interview with OPEC NEWS AGENCY, Mr Tam David-West asserted that Nigeria "remains firmly" with OPEC. "These rumors are baseless," he added.

OPEC Links Not Severed

AB131343 Lagos NAN in English 1332 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Lagos, Jan. 13 (NAN) — The minister of petroleum and energy, Prof Tam David-West, said in Lagos yesterday at a buffet dinner for media executives that Nigeria had not severed links with OPEC, contrary to rumours which interrupted a strong rise in spot oil prices on Thursday.

Prof David-West commended the press for the support given to him in the fight against illegal bunkering of oil, saying "of the two consitutencies I belong to — the university and the press — the latter has made me what I am today." He assured media practioners of his cooperation, adding "if there are any missing links, a minister should not be afraid to explain to the media men, if you do not talk, there is no reason why they will not speculate."

Meanwhile, Nigeria is expected to attend the Jan. 18 and the Jan. 28 meetings of the OPEC to straighten out the issue of price differentials.

Lagos on Senator Kennedy's Visit to Soweto

AB121354 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Ishola Dada commentary]

[Text] If President Reagan's administration is unconcerned about the wailings of the oppressed people in apartheid South Africa, there are at least some of his countrymen who are now showing some concern for the plight of the black majority in that enclave. It is perhaps not a coincidence that while Senator Kennedy of the renowned Kennedy dynasty was visiting South Africa, another American, black activist Rev Jessie Jackson, who made history last year by contesting nomination as presidential candidate on the ticket of the Democratic Party, was in London condemning the United States and Britain for supporting the apartheid system in South Africa.

Admittedly, many notable Americans have visited South Africa before Senator Edward Kennedy. Nonetheless, his visit coming at this time is singularly significant, if not for anything but his keen interest in the plight of the impoverished blacks suffering all manners of deprivation at the hands of racist bigots in that country. It was reported that Senator Kennedy visited a hostel for South African migrant laborers in Soweto and described it as the most distressful place he had ever visited in his life. The dormitory-type hostel which Senator Kennedy visited perhaps epitomized the conditions under which blacks in South Africa live generally. For example, the senator learned at first hand that a bungalow at the hostel housed up to 60 migrant laborers, and they are migrant workers in their own native land by reason of their color. Some of them can see their families back at the so-called homelands only 3 weeks a year. The families are forbidden, under the apartheid regulation, from living with them in the hostel. Senator Kennedy was also able to see for himself the contrast between the Soweto ghetto housing the blacks and the sprawling modern neighboring city of Johannesburg populated by the whites. Indeed, Senator Kennedy was appalled by the situation in apartheid South Africa and he made no secret of this when he said at a news conference that he was deeply opposed to the entire concept of apartheid in South Africa.

If black African workers can be so shabbily treated, one wonders what will be the conditions under which jailed black nationalists like Nelson Mandela live in South Africa. Now that Senator Kennedy has seen the conditions under which the black majority live under the minority white rule, what will be his contribution to the liberation of the blacks from the shackles of the repressive rule of the whites in the enclave? In other words, what will be the effects of his visit on the racist clique?

If apartheid has been a system with respect for human dignity, one would have expected that the visit and expression of a man of Senator Kennedy's standing would have some effect on the racists. Unfortunately, apartheid is historically an (?atrocious) system, a crime against humanity that never changes its modus operandi. However, Senator Kennedy is not a member of the Reagan administration. He even belongs to different political party. Nevertheless, he is a man of considerable influence on the American political scene. He can, therefore, wield tremendous goodwill to get the American Senate to pass (?binding) resolutions that would make President Reagan's administration bring pressure to bear on the racists to restore to the black some measure of human dignity. This is because it is globally acknowledged that South Africa's intransigence has only been possible by the moral, financial, and diplomatic support of the United States.

ANGOLA

ANGOP Comments on Upcoming Party Conference

MB131154 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 12 Jan 85

[ANGOP Commentary: "The Revolution Is Advancing"]

[Text] We are at the start of a year, the 10th year after the winning of national independence and the final victory of 11 November 1975. In 10 years, the first years of our young nation the People's Republic of Angola, we have already traveled a long way on the broad path of the future which will be one of peace, happiness, and the well-being of the entire people.

This was a marathon race by a giant people, whom some skeptics, splittists, and ambitious and irresponsible persons doubted and, as a result, they were irretrievably left by the roadside. The people, determined and sure of victory, marched steadily despite the multiple difficulties which had to be removed, the traps, the acts of treason, and the permanent acts of external aggression which force them to remain armed. It is not an exaggeration to state that the future of the Angolan revolution and the destiny of the Angolan nation depend in final analysis on party action, the comrade president said in his new year message.

The implementation of this principle, which has already been accepted by the Angolan people from Cabinda to Cunene, not only strengthens the party ranks and effectively politicizes the working masses, but also, mainly, consolidates indestructible national unity. As a result, it is easy to understand the expectations regarding great party events such as is the current case with the convening of the first MPLA-Labor Party national conference which begins on 14 January in Luanda.

Some guiding topics, which are going to be discussed at the conference, are already known to the public. They broadly justify the renewed hope of the whole people that 1985 will be the decisive year for the consolidation of the successes achieved in the first decade of our existence as it will enable us to remove some abscesses which persist in growing in the Angolan society.

The party conference will make an exhaustive review of the work that has been undertaken from time of the extraordinary congress of 1980 to the present in the field of the internal life of the party itself as well as in the activity of the state and mass and social organizations. It will also lay down the general directives which will guide the preparation for the second regular party congress. The conference will also primarily deal with the indispensable strengthening of ideological unity in its ranks from the grass roots to the top and strictly observe democratic centralism so as to unanimously confirm the conviction of its militants and the people that the party should have only one philosophy and only one voice. The economic and social tasks which are directly linked with the well-being, happiness, and justice aspired by our people will be thoroughly analyzed and discussed in depth by the party militants who will attend the first party conference. As a result of experience gained in recent years and the inevitable mistakes as we learned to govern a country which was born out of long colonial nightmare, we are now more sure of ourselves and are in a position to propose important measures in the economic and social fields to the congress.

The first party national conference will dedicate particular attention to the question of safeguarding social property and rehabilitating and maintaining transportation, buildings, factories, machines, and equipment within the framework of revitalizing priority programs with a view to organizing and consolidating an economy that supports the war and wage the war to support the economy. The party national conference will analyze the issues of the mobilization and the effective control of foreign trade and the rational utilization of foreign cooperation, which are regarded as a priority among the party's vast concerns to be discussed at the first national conference.

A thorough review of the activity of the education and health sectors will also enable us to make rational decisions aimed at correcting mistakes that have been made so that we can face with renewed hope the future of our institutions.

Thus, it is easy to understand the feelings of expectation regarding the holding of the first party national conference, which begins in the country's capital on 14 January. The success of the proceedings of the first party national conference will have an impact on the success of the second regular MPLA-Labor Party Congress and, in final analysis, the triumph of our revolution. For this reason, with the certainty that 1985 will be decisive for the Angolan revolution, Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos proclaimed it the year of the second party congress.

Luanda Cites CIA Director on Arms to UNITA

MB120607 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] The United States intends to dramatically increase the supply of arms and ammunition to the counterrevolutionary groups that operate in the People's Republic of Angola and in other states that resist Washington's attempts to impose its diktat.

This announcement was recently made in New York by the director of the CIA. This organization is currently spending tens of thousands of dollars for the financing of subversive and criminal operations against progressive countries, namely Angola, Nicaragua, Afghanistan, and others.

UNITA's Savimbi Warns of Attacks on Multinationals

MB130547 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] The leader of the UNITA movement in Angola, Dr Jonas Savimbi, says proposals by the MPLA government for a partial withdrawal of Cuabn forces from Angola will cause the country to be divided into two parts — the north, controlled by the Cuban-backed MPLA, and the south, controlled by his UNITA movement.

Addressing a news conference at UNITA headquarters at Jamba, Dr Savimbi said that the MPLA knew too well that if the Cubans withdrew entirely, UNITA would take over Angola. He said that MPLA proposals for the withdrawal of the Cubans northwards to the 13th parallel meant that it was prepared to allow UNITA to take over the southern half of the country.

Dr Savimbi said that big business was backing the move to divide Angola because most of the natural resources of the country lay in the north. He told our special representative that multinational companies operating in Angola would be attacked from now on because they had not protested against the growing number of UNITA supporters being executed by firing squad in Angola.

Among the companies that would be attacked were the French oil concern, Elf-Aquitaine, the American company, Gulf Oil, and the Brazilian concern, Petrobras.

COMOROS

Foreign Minister Denies Reported Aid to MNR

AB131244 Paris AFP in English 1214 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Moroni, Jan 13 (AFP) — Foreign Minister Said Kafe of Comoros today denied reports that rebels in Mozambique were being supplied with arms ferried via this Indian Ocean island state.

He referred to press reports from Maputo quoting Mozambican officials as saying that Portuguese and South African businessmen were organising airdrops to rebels of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) from the Comoros and other places.

On January 5 the Mozambican *NOTICIAS* newspaper quoted military commanders in Central Sofala Province as saying that rebels in the province received arms by parachute in December in operations similar to those carried out by South Africa before Pretoria and Maputo signed a non-aggression pact last March.

Last month the London *OBSERVER*, giving no sources, said that arms were being ferried from the Middle East via Somalia and the Comoros to Mozambican rebels. Portuguese businessmen were helping to finance the operation, the paper said.

Mr Kafe said that "the Comoran authorities noted with astonishment and disdain these allegations" and "condemn them unreservedly." They were "pure invention," aimed at denigrating the Comoros Republic at a time when it intended to develop and consolidate the good relations it has with neighbouring countries, he said.

Mr Kafe, speaking before leaving for Madagascar and a meeting of ministers of the Indian Ocean Commission, at which Comoros is an observer, said his government had "close diplomatic relations" with Mozambique and was in the process of developing *them further.*

MALAWI

President Banda Appoints New Cabinet Ministers

MB111645 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] His excellency the life president, Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda, has appointed a new Cabinet. Announcing this today, a spokesman of the office of the president and Cabinet in Lilongwe said the composition of the new cabinet is as follows:

Minister of external affairs, minister of agriculture, minister of works and supplies, and minister of justice:
His excellency the life president, Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda
Minister without portfolio and administrative secretary of the Malawi Congress Party:
Robson Chirwa
Minister at large:
Sidney Somaje
Minister of transport and communications:
Wadson Deleza
Minister of finance:
Edward Bwanali
Minister of education and culture:
Louis Chimango
Minister of trade, industry, and tourism:
Chimwemwe Hara
Minister of youth:
Stanford Demba
Minister of health:
Dalton Katapola
Minister of labor:
Katola Phiri
Minister of local government:
Katikira Banda
Minister of community services:
George Kandawire
Minister of forestry and natural resources:
Poltone Mutende

These appointments are with effect from today.

MOZAMBIQUE

Portuguese Commission Notes Involvement in 'Terrorism'

MB120920 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 12 Jan 85

[Text] The Portuguese foreign parliamentary and immigration commission has taken account of the statements by the Mozambican authorities on the involvement of Portuguese nationals from Lisbon in acts of violence and terrorism against our country. This is reported by the *NOTICIAS*. A PORTUGUESE NEWS AGENCY dispatch said that the commission, which regards the People's Republic of Mozambique as a friendly country, called for a meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to seek clarification on the situation in order to take appropriate measures.

Our government and news media have frequently reported that there are Portuguese nationals who are responsible for the armed banditry. These Portuguese nationals use Lisbon as a base for their destabilizing and propaganda operations against our country in Western Europe.

NAMIBIA

Secret Interim Government Plans Described

MB140819 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 14 Jan 85 p 2

[By Tony Weaver, *MAIL* Africa Bureau]

[Text] Windhoek — South African plans for establishing a pre-independence interim government in South-West Africa — possibly by June this year — are well advanced.

It was reported at the weekend that in terms of the plan, a new central government would be established with leading members of the Multi-Party Conference (MPC) taking over key cabinet posts.

The present administrator general of SWA, Dr Willie van Niekerk, would be recalled to South Africa, his post downgraded, and a more junior official sent to SWA to oversee South African interests.

All key posts, except for defence and foreign affairs, which would remain under South African control, would be taken over by the interim government.

Details of the secret plan, drawn up by two committees made up of leading economists from the private and public sector, were revealed in a report on the front page of the liberal SWA German weekly newspaper, *NAMIBIA NACHRICHTEN (NAMIBIA NEWS)*.

The author of the report, who wished to remain anonymous, assured the *MAIL* Africa Bureau that his source — whose name is in possession of the Africa Bureau — "is impeccable".

NAMIBIA NACHRICHTEN's report said the two committees were established in December 1983 to draw up a strategic report covering all aspects of SWA's political and economic life.

The report stated that the committee, under the chairmanship of Dr Johan Jones, the SWA secretary of finance, would submit its final report to Dr Van Niekerk by April 15.

A month later, Dr Van Niekerk would nominate a "new government" for SWA in terms of which key members of the MPC would occupy all important cabinet posts.

Members of the committee were named as: Dr Jones; Mr Deon Gouws, director of the Department of Government Affairs; Mr Johan Jordaan of the Department of Water Affairs; Mr W.J. du Rand, secretary for transport; Dr L.J. Erasmus, secretary for health; Dr H. Schneider, secretary for agriculture, Mr J.H. Visser, of the Department of Community Development and Education; Mr Fanie Spies, of the Department of Municipal Affairs; and Prof N.J. Swart, of the University of Potchefstroom.

The second part of the committee, consisting of prominent members of the private sector, was said to include Mr Robert Myburgh, president of the Institute of Economic Affairs, and Mr Anthony Bieler, head of Siemens Namibia, among others.

Dr Jones yesterday confirmed the existence of these committees, but denied they were in any way involved in political or constitutional deliberations or that they had recommended the establishment of an interim government.

Africa Bureau sources said, however, plans were already well advanced for the formal setting-up of the MPC as an interim pre-independence government for SWA.

In terms of informed speculation, the South African Government would like to see SWAPO ending its guerrilla war and returning to SWA as "just another political party" — joining the MPC in a "government of national unity".

Neither Dr Van Niekerk nor his aides could be reached for comment yesterday. Leaders of the MPC could also not be contacted.

Kennedy Meets Church, SWAPO Leaders for Talks

MB130632 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] Senator Edward Kennedy is meeting with church and SWAPO leaders in Windhoek's Katutura township. He was greeted by about 1,000 cheering SWAPO supporters, as Gwen Lister reports:

[Lister] On his arrival, Multiparty Conference supporters sported placards reading "Kennedy go home" and "We want Reagan." After 2 hours of talks, Senator Kennedy and SWAPO Vice President Hendrik Witbooi stood on the bonnet of a car to address the enthusiastic SWAPO crowd. Kennedy pledged to work to see Resolution 435 implemented, apartheid done away with, and an end to the policy of constructive engagement.

The meeting with SWAPO concerned Resolution 435, the presence of the U.S. liaison office in Windhoek, and constructive engagement. The senator also met seven former Mariental detainees held for 6 years in detention without trial and [words indistinct] for the treatment they received. Kennedy said of his meetings that he had met with brave men and women whose only desire was to be free.

SOUTH AFRICA

Officials, Papers Comment on Kennedy Visit

Botha: Kennedy 'Supremely Racist'

MB130527 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has written a personal letter to Senator Edward Kennedy, in which he accuses the senator of using his South African visit as a forum to obtain publicity for a set of preconceived value judgments.

In the letter, handed to Senator Kennedy as he left Cape Town for Windhoek yesterday, Mr Botha said that Senator Kennedy had arrived in the country with his mind made up and that he would depart with his mind made up.

Mr Botha accused the senator of being supremely racist by insisting that South Africa be judged according to standards different to those that were being applied to the rest of Africa.

He sounded a warning to the senator that solutions found effective in the United States had no echo in South Africa, except as slogans parroted by those who wished to exploit the situation for their own ends.

Viljoen on Meeting

MB111143 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1120 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Cape Town, Jan 11, SAPA — The minister of cooporation, development and education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, has expressed his surprise at the "unusual" behaviour of U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy in publically siding with political groups protesting against government action at the Crossroads squatter camp yesterday.

Dr Viljoen's criticism of the touring Massachusetts Democrat was made at a press conference following a meeting between the two men this morning.

Asked how he felt about the critical way in which Senator Kennedy had conducted his tour of South Africa so far, the minister said: "I have strong feelings, but I would not like to express them."

As a politician, Dr Viljoen said, he was not objective in the matter and any comments he might make could detract from comments made by others who, he said, had expressed their amusement and disgust at the senator's "style."

"I am surprised he openly associated himself with a protest group against the government," the minister said. "This is rather unusual. A South African politician would not involve himself in an internal political action against another government.

"It is not the normal thing to do."

Dr Viljoen said he had started his interview with Mr Kennedy by emphasising a few "relative" points. He had drawn the senator's attention to the fact that he would not find a single state in Africa, with few exceptions, that would allow him the freedom to conduct such a critical political tour of their country.

Nor would Senator Kennedy find them allowing the type of criticism found in the South African media, Dr Viljoen said.

The senator had proposed solutions for South Africa that worked only in homogeneous societies. "The South African Government is committed to political reform including the blacks," Dr Viljoen said he told the senator.

"I told him political reform was not a one-time final process, but an on-going process influenced by groups and inter-group relations. The pre-supposition of this reform in the mind of the government is the acknowledgement of a fact — the reality of the population diversity of South Africa."

Dr Viljoen had stressed to the senator that the republic was not interested in slipping back to the political and social standards pertaining to the rest of Africa.

Senator Kennedy had been "badly served" by a distorted view he obtained during his visit to the Onverwacht resettlement area outside of Bloemfontein.

Dr Viljoen said he should not have started with the graveyard, but rather with the new housing development, "and he would have seen where things are going rather than where they have been."

There had been a tremendous influx of illegal Sothos into the area as a result of the proper planning and serviced sites being provided by the government.

Regarding health care, he had informed the senator that the township had five clinics which were served daily by six state doctors and 60 qualified nurses. There were six private doctors practising in the area and a new hospital was in the process of being built, and would open at the end of the year.

He said he found the senator disinterested in his offer to visit the new black super-township of Khayelitsha, which already boasted the best beach and recreational facilities available.

The senator had asked him whether the Crossroads population would be forcibly moved to Khayelitsha and he had told him that it was government policy to negotiate and persuade as far as possible when resetilement became necessary.

"I'm sure the attraction of Khayelitsha will grow as it develops and people settle there," he said.

Crossroads, from a town planning, fire hazard, health and security point of view, was totally unacceptable.

The government was not prepared to accept the norms of other major African cities where over 50 per cent of the inhabitants lived in shanties, Dr Viljoen said.

Huenis: Tour 'Stage-Managed'

MB111223 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1154 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] Cape Town, Jan 11, SAPA — Senator Edward Kennedy could not make valid judgments on South Africa on the basis of his limited and stage managed one-week tour of Southern Africa, the minister of constitutional development and administration, Mr Chris Heunis, said today.

He was addressing a press conference after an hour-long meeting with the touring Massachusetts Democrat and said the South African Government was not sorry it had given Mr Kennedy a visa.

"Whether he came with preconceived ideas and whether he will change them when the facts prove him wrong, will have to be asked of him," Mr Heunis said after making it clear he did not want to comment directly on the senator's actions on the tour.

"No man, including the senator, has the right to, or the qualifications to, judge the moral or Christian basis of what happens in other countries," he said.

He did not want to be prescribe [as received], but he believed that on such a visit a representative view was required.

Asked about his view of the senator's travels so far, Mr Heunis said: "I don't want to be unkind, but I believe the tour has been stage managed and his exposure has been too limited."

It was unfair to expect a proper assessment from the senator, who came from a different political and social environment. It would, therefore, also be wrong for him, Mr Heunis told a questioner, to judge on the basis of one meeting, what the senator's reaction to the country was going to be.

"We will just have to wait for it," he said.

The discussions had been cordial, Mr Heunis said.

"I made it clear in no uncertain terms where South Africa stands, also vis a vis outside interference in its domestic affairs."

The general impression he had gained from their meeting was that the senator had been exposed on a selective basis and to selected communities.

"Obviouly, he cannot from his visit and his own exposures be briefed on South African society. I accept that the senator, through his aides, had been briefed before he arrived on certain facets of the society and communities here."

Secondly, as far as his own discussions were concerned, he had discussed in very broad terms the constitutional development of South Africa in terms of achievements and future intent.

Disinvestment had not been discussed as it was not put on the agenda by either of them, Mr Heunis said.

Visit Brings Unity of Outrage

MB131108 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 13 Jan 85 p 20

[Editorial: "An Arrogant Talent To Outrage..."]

[Text] President Botha and his cabinet owe a vote of thanks to the minor American politician who, for the past week, has been campaigning against his own government in the squatter towns and shanties of South Africa.

For eight days the high-profile low jinks of the man who, despite a famous name and the amazing tolerance of the American voting public, failed even to win a presidential nomination against Jimmy Carter, has outraged South Africans of all political persuasions.

He has given them an insight into the grosser side of American made-for-media politicking and diverted their attention from depression, drought and a tumbling rand. He has also — and for this a government besieged by problems should be profoundly grateful — produced a unique if temporary show of unity from most whites and many blacks, whose devout wish was that the Kennedy circus should find another country to play in.

That unity was based not on support for the government or its policies, but on a mounting sense of outrage at the breathtaking arragance of a foreign politician who is not only singularly unqualified to teach South Africa about morals, but whose behaviour towards both this country and his own government proves that he has nothing to teach us about manners, either.

Indeed, reasonable people across the political spectrum have been left wondering what reception would be accorded a South African politician who hectored American bureaucrats, picketed American prisons and publicly castigated the American administration.

Senator Kennedy's attitude towards hapless officials, his blatant if highly-selective courting of television coverage, his disdainful treatment of Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, his tunnel vision in seeking, seeing and then pronouncing on only that side of South Africa which reinforced his prejudices, his attack on his own government's representative in South Africa, all betray the insensitive arrogance of a man who once believed he could survive the scandal of Chappaquiddick and then run for president of the United States.

Today he is not even a very important member of the United States Congress. And, despite every attempt by his abrasive aides, his South African safari has not received widespread American coverage.

And that, perhaps, is the best possible verdict on his blatant attempt to fish in this country's troubled waters for political gain in his own. For, despite all his posturing, the main result of his visit has been to make the South African Government appear a great deal more tolerant and reasonable than it did the week before.

Impact of Visit

MB131102 Johannesburg SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 13 Jan 85 p 8

[Editorial: "Valuable Visit — If All Sides Were Listening"]

[Text] Senator Edward Kennedy has been and today will be gone.

But his going — as much of a relief as it might be to many — will no more erase the shame for South Africa of Nancefield hostel and Onverwacht resettlement camp than his being here will erase his tarnished personal and public record.

Nobody should be feeling morally superior right now.

Indeed, love or hate him, Ted Kennedy has had an impact on South Africa in the week that he has been here. It will of course be argued by those who love him that it will be a good impact. When the senator returns to Washington, they say, he will champion the cause of reform and civil liberties in South Africa even more now that he has been here.

That may be, and it is hoped that if he does so, he won't confuse measures for reform and liberaties with measures likely to retard reform and threaten what few liberties remain in this country.

Those who love him less, but who are in equal measure appalled by what they consider his uncommon gall, ought to guard against becoming obsessed with our international image while ignoring the real problems of this country.

Mr Kennedy, understandably, focused on human rights violations in South Africa and they are definitely part of the real problem. There is no excuse for them and they should be addressed forthwith.

However, there are many other substantial, indeed fundamental, problems in this country which, it is perhaps not surprising, Mr Kennedy failed to identify. Not being much of an economist, Mr Kennedy probably does not easily recognise them, for they stem from policies that lead to the same kind of excessive and wasteful government which is ironically characteristic of his own brand of out-dated political liberalism.

Probably Mr Kennedy's greatest service to the cause of reform in this country was that his presence was able to bring together all the major representatives of business in a public statement calling for substantial political and economic reform. They included the Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut which backed off the last time it went public on a political matter, so that is indeed a welcome sign.

It is hoped, if their meeting is to have real value, that he and they listened closely to each other. On the one hand the business leaders warned that disinvestment and sanctions would restrict growth, "a powerful catalyst for peaceful change." On the other hand Mr Kennedy warned that words were not enough and that statements of goodwill could not be accepted as substitutes for concrete actions.

This country's business leaders should not think that Mr Kennedy is the only party whose action will be closely watched in the coming months.

ANC's Tambo Welcomes Possible Talks With Government

MB130620 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 13 Jan 85

[Text] The president of the ANC, Oliver Tambo, has welcomed speculation that the South African Government might have talks with the ANC. (Martin Davidson) reports from Lusaka:

[(Davidson)] Tambo warned that the ANC had yet to demonstrate its full power inside South Africa, but he said there came a time when talking was worthwhile if there were prospects for progress. He said people in South Africa wanted peace, but all they expected was greater escalation of the conflict, a reference to the ability of black rights organizations to promote strikes and street demonstrations as well as the ANC's own campaign of sporadic sabotage and bombing acts.

Speculation that the government and the ANC may get together has been given prominence in South Africa in the progovernment Afrikaans press.

Mr Tambo has been in Zambia for a ceremony marking the 73d anniversary of the founding of the ANC.

SWAZILAND

Foreign Minister Criticizes ANC Actions

MB111938 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] The Swaziland minister of foreign affairs, Mr Mnisi, says he wants the world to notice what the ANC is doing in Swaziland, so that when Swaziland takes action against the ANC, the country will not be accused of being ruthless.

Addressing a news conference in Mbabane, Mr Mnisi said that following discussions recently between Swaziland and the ANC in Lusaka, Swaziland had not expected the ANC to, as he called it, publicly walk about the country with weapons of war, belittling the Swaziland Government as if it had no teeth.

He said that Swaziland citizens had been slaughtered in cold blood by the ANC last year. Mr Mnisi said that Swaziland could be ruthless if it liked, but it had always wanted to do things the peaceful way. He said that was why his country had gone to Lusaka for discussions with the ANC.

He added that Swaziland was also not happy with the ANC running to the United Nations and the OAU with statements. He emphasized that any refugees wanting to use Swaziland as a springboard for attacks on their enemies would be, as he put it, kicked out.

Foreign Minister Explains Economic Ties With RSA

MB111735 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Mhambi Mnisi, has clearly explained the economic situation between Swaziland and the RSA. Speaking at a press conference this afternoon in Mbabane, Mr Mnisi stated that trade links with South Africa will continue despite the much abhorred apartheid laws practiced by that country.

Answering a question concerning trade sanctions against South Africa, advocated by the visiting American, Senator Edward Kennedy, Mr Mnisi said if the world can impose trade sanctions against South Africa, automatically Swaziland could be affected. He explained that Swaziland cannot afford to divorce herself from South Africa when it comes to trade. He added that this fact is even known by the OAU and the UN, that our exports and imports come through South African routes.

Mr Mnisi stated although we are politically free, but economically we work hand in hand with South Africa. He said this is seen through the Customs Union and the Rand Monetary area, of which the two countries are members.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Addresses National Assembly 11 Jan

MB111500 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0836 GMT 11 Jan 85

[Speech by President Kenneth Kaunda at the opening of the second session of the Fifth National Assembly in Lusaka on 11 January 1985 — live]

[Excerpts] Honorable Mr Speaker, honorable members of the house, listeners at home, [words indistinct] Mr Speaker, we (?hardly achieved) [word indistinct] by the University of Zambia, which last year conferred on you the honorary degree of doctor [word indistinct] for your distinguished service to the nation as a whole.

As we enter the third decade of our independence, as we embark on the implementation of our national policies for the decade 1985-1995, and as we set foot on the road of economic crusade 1985, I ask our defense and security forces to work even harder to combat crime and maintain law and order. I ask the workers to work even harder to produce more and to maintain industrial peace. I want the entire nation to work even harder to produce more, and maintain peace and stability.

We in the leadership of the party are committed democrats. We love freedom. Therefore, despite irresponsible statements that some of our people make, we shall not be diverted from the course of complete freedom for every Zambian. [applause] But let me warn those who want to abuse their freedom of speech by attempting to divide the nation and to create conditions of instability in the country. The law of the land recognises only that freedom which does not interfere with the freedom of others.

Mr Speaker, the party encourages criticism within the party as a means of correcting mistakes and improving the quality of our decisions, policies, and programs of work. It also encourages individuals who are not members of the party, wherever they may be, to express their views on national issues. However the right which is conferred on us to speak freely also imposes on us a duty: A duty to build unity and not to sow seeds of disunity; a duty to use the machinery of the party to reconcile different points of view and not to use any other channels which are inimical to the interest of a stable and peaceful country.

Honorable members of this house have the privilege of speaking in this house as well as in the National Council, which is the policymaking body of the party. There are, therefore, policymakers as well as executors of these policies. Some members of this house seem to think that they are wearing two hats — the one that belongs to the party, which they can conveniently pack away when they are in this house, and the other that belongs to this house. Let me make it abundantly clear that we in the United National Independence Party, UNIP, recognise only one hat, and that is the UNIP hat. That is the hat that honorable members of this house wear when they are in the National Council, as well as when they are in this house. The implications of this are clear, all genuine members of UNIP must defend the policies of the party irrespective of where they are.

We are experiencing economic problems today because our economy is too dependent on imported raw materials. When copper fetched good prices, the importation of raw materials was not a problem. We had enough foreign exchange to import all our requirements. Now that the price of copper on the world market has fallen, and it is doubtful that it will ever recover appreciably to have any significant impact on our economy, we have little foreign exchange with which to import all its oil and other raw materials for our industries. [sentence as heard] The scarcity of raw materials is making idle most hands and indeed the machines these hands use in our industries. As a result, we are producing very few goods. This has resulted in the shortages that we do have from time to time. Indeed, the problem of declining copper prices has been compounded by the exhorbitant (?rally) in the price of oil and the high interest rates in the United States of America.

Mr Speaker, we have taken measures to resuscitate the economy. Some of these measures are yielding results, even if these may be imperceptible to most of us. Yet these are harsh measures, some of which have had the effects of raising the prices of a number of commodities. But what does a good doctor do when he wants to pick a tumor in the brain? He splits the head open to remove the tumor. This is a drastic action, and effective, because he knows that unless his operation is carried out, any other treatment will not cure the patient.

Mr Speaker, the [word indistinct] are we either continue to hold down artificially the prices of these items even when the (?economic sense) demands that they be raised, or we let some prices respond to the economic dictates of the day provided that downright profiteering is checked so that we can stimulate growth in the economy.

If we had enough money, like we used to have when copper was fetching a higher price and the price of oil was low, we could have continued to subsidize the prices of a number of essential items. But now we have clearly little money with which to subsidize the prices of these items. We, the consumers, must therefore bear the full costs of these items.

The party and its government have allowed free bargaining, but the demand for an increase in salaries and wages must be made against the background of our present economic situation. If we demand salaries and wages that will wipe out the profit of an industry, that industry will collapse, and with its collapse a number of people will receive their last salary as there will be no more jobs. These are the realities we have to face. Economic growth cannot come out of consumption. It springs from more investment and hard work.

Mr Speaker, what I am saying is that agriculture must now be the basis of our economic development, for agriculture provides food for everybody in the nation, ensures provision of raw materials for the industries. It increases income for the majority of the population, and hence the chances for increased (?savings) and tax revenue to support the rest of the economy. Indeed, it increases the market for manufacturing.

We have various import substitution industries which can use locally grown input. For example, while textiles Kafue Textiles Limited and Mulungushi Textiles Limited are using locally produced cotton, Zambia Breweries, Refined Oil Products 1975 Ltd., Kabwe Industrial Fabric, bakeries, etc., etc., are all importing, substantially, their main raw materials.

Mr Speaker, the question is: How can we increase agricultural productivity without resorting to the demand for more foreign exchange? This is a valid question taking into account the goals of the economic crusade 1985 which requires us to develop even without foreign exchange. The answer to this question lies in what I have already said, namely increased use of our land, water, and labor.

Mr Speaker, I would now like to deal with foreign affairs. Our foreign policy, which is based on our philosophy of humanism, has served us well. It has earned us many friends. There will therefore be no change in our foreign policy, aims, and objectives this year. We will continue to be strong supporters of the United Nations, the OAU, the Commonwealth, the Nonaligned Movement, the Preferential Trade Area, and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference. We believe in the aims and objectives of these organizations, and as such we shall continue to play an active role in them. Mr Speaker, we hate war. For this reason we believe strongly in the principle of settling international disputes by peaceful means. In this regard we shall continue to advocate and work for world peace and for detente between the superpowers. The world needs permanent peace, for secure and permanent peace form the foundation of economic development and of human progress. In this connection, we welcome the meeting which was held in Geneva this week between the foreign ministers of the two superpowers. We hope that this meeting will pave the way for a summit meeting of these superpowers.

Mr Speaker, with respect to our policy toward neighbors, we remain committed to the policy of good neighborliness. We want to be at peace and on friendly and brotherly terms with all our neighbors. Day in, day out we work toward this goal.

Our philosophy, Mr Speaker and honorable members, values the freedom of every man and the right of people to self-determination. We support the people of Namibia, led by SWAPO, in their struggle for self-determination. Until Namibia attains its independence, we shall continue to render this support within our means. The Namibian problem would have long been solved if it were not for the insistence of the United States and South Africa to link the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435 to the extraneous issue of the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola. You know the United States is a friend of Zambia, and in good faith we want to tell the United States that this is a wrong and dangerous policy, because it leads to perpetuating a situation of hostilities in the region. In this new year we want to ask the United States to review this policy. [applause]

Mr Speaker, the situation in South Africa is of great concern to us. Our white brothers and sisters in that country do not realize that by their behavior they are creating an extremely explosive situation there which, when it erupts, will destroy everything. Yet this can be avoided by dismantling the apartheid system and by allowing South Africans of all races to participate in the political process of their country. It is not yet too late for President Botha and his colleagues in the government and in the Afrikaner secret organization, the Broederbond, to discuss the future of South Africa with Nelson Mandela and other ANC leaders. [applause] This approach can save South Africa from the bloodbath that is certain to come if the problem is not solved. White South Africans have nothing to fear from their black, Colored, and Indian brothers. These are human beings like themselves who are civilized as themselves.

Mr Speaker, until South Africa dismantles the system of apartheid and democratizes the political system on the basis of one man, one vote, Zambia will continue to condemn South Africa's policies of oppresssion and detention and will join hands with the forces that seek to put pressure on South Africa to change her policies.

The system of apartheid is evil, very evil indeed. When Bishop Desmond Tutu came here recently, he visited me at Kasaba Bay. There he showed me what was written on his passport. On his passport his nationality is described as undeterminable at present. I was shocked and shaken. How, Mr Speaker, for a people to hold such contempt of the African image, call themselves civilized? [Kaunda interrupts his speech and weeps]

Mr Speaker and honorable members, you will forgive me. These double standards are difficult to understand, very difficult indeed, undeterminable at present. I was shocked and shaken. How, Mr Speaker, is it possible for a people to hold such contempt to other human beings and still call themselves civilized and still get the support of the so-called Christian world? How is it possible? [applause] This is difficult for me to understand, very difficult indeed. How indeed is it possible for a regime to denationalize a person who is indigenous to his country?

Mr Speaker, South Africa deserves the condemnation of the whole world. We ask the West, particularly the United States, to put pressure on the South African minority regime to behave like a civilized government. In this regard, we welcome the statement of President Reagan on 10 December 1984 in which he spoke strongly against the policy of apartheid. [applause] We need more of these statements. We do not think that quiet diplomacy alone can have an impact on the leaders of South Africa. We need to use a combination of quiet and loud diplomacy so that the ordinary people of South Africa can see the policies of their government for what they are — abominable. This should now be followed by a review of the policy of constructive engagement. The policy of constructive engagement is not helping the oppressed people. It is strengthening the apartheid regime.

Mr Speaker, unless the situation in the various regions [break in transmission].

We have noted the readiness of Iraq to stop the war and to settle the problem through peaceful means. We urge Iran to reciprocate to Iraq's goodwill.

Mr Speaker, let me touch on the situation in Afghanistan and Kampuchea. We have not changed our position on these two issues. We demand the withdrawal of all foreign forces from these countries so that the people of these countries can settle their differences through political means.

Mr Speaker, allow me to conclude my remarks on our foreign policy by thanking all countries that have continued to give us technical assistance and development aid. [applause] We very much value this aid. Although in some cases we have not fully utilized it in the past, we shall endeavor to do so in the future.

Mr Speaker and honorable members of the house, in conclusion I want to say that our political and economic policies are sound. They will remain unchanged. We shall continue to pursue them with the usual vigor. Yet we have economic difficulties, but this is not the time to punish. This is the time to be calm and cool. If we punish we shall prescribe the wrong medicine to our economic ills. Then the economy will not take off, but come what may we must revamp the economy.

I have great faith in the resilience of the Zambian people. That has been their character whenever we have faced severe challenges. Together we faced the combined forces of Portuguese, Rhodesian and South African forces. We never gave up. Today we are fighting the economic war. Let us, as before, fight this war together with our characteristic courage and determination. We must never give up the fight. With unity of purpose victory is certain.

Mr Speaker, it is now my great honor and privilege to declare this second session of the Fifth Parliament officially opened. May the good Lord God Almighty, save the Republic and bless you all. Thank you. [applause]

Kaunda Urges RSA Sanctions During Kennedy Visit

MB140840 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Jan 85

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kaunda, has castigated the West for speaking in double tongues over the liberation of Namibia and the end of apartheid in South Africa. The president, who was speaking at State House last night when the visiting American senator, Edward Kennedy, called on him, said that the Western world agreed to impose economic sanctions against Poland, but they opposed the same method in South Africa.

Dr Kaunda said that all those for the peaceful independence of South Africa should impose economic sanctions, even if it means they would have to suffer. Dr Kaunda said that the situation in South Africa, if allowed to explode, will make the French Revolution look like a Sunday morning panic [as heard], adding that Zambia had suffered a lot to understand what the struggle is all about.

President Kaunda said that one happy development was on December 10, when President Ronald Reagan moved from saying that the apartheid people of South Africa were allies. Dr Kaunda said they were allies in the East-West confrontation, but that the ANC was not fighting to introduce communism in South Africa. He cited where innocent people are dying in Namibia because Mr Reagan's administration and South Africa insist in the Cuban withdrawal from Angola and these innocent victims are not concerned with the confrontation. He said that the only hope is to release the jailed Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners.

Dr Kaunda told Senator Kennedy, who was accompanied by members of his family, that he was delighted to see the family after being in South Africa to collect firsthand information on how that country is operating and supporting rebels who attack frontline states.

Shortly before his departure, Senator Kennedy said at Lusaka International Airport that the United States should do what is right and support the United Nation's Resolution 435, because it is an international law and the right thing to do for the Namibian people. The senator said he looks forward to returning to the United States to work with the Republicans in doing everything possible to disassociate his country's policy with apartheid.

On his meetings with leaders of the ANC, Senator Kennedy said they had been very constructive and that the visit to South Africa afforded him an opportunity to see a just resolution to the type of racist policy in South Africa and the South African Government. He said he was delighted to come to Zambia to pay his respect to President Kaunda, a distinguished statesman who is forceful, passionate, and visonary about the problems of South Africa.

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15 Jan 1985